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THE PANIC OF 1819 IN MISSOURI

BY DOROTHY B. DORSEY

During the depression it is interesting and illuminating to turn back the pages of Missouri history for a glimpse of conditions which existed in the State following the panic of 1819. Such a survey affords no little surprise at the stringency of the times and the striking similarity of many of the difficulties of the past and the present.

Unfortunately, there is no economic history of the panic of 1819 in Missouri. Primary sources for such a history are disappointing. It is as though the countless references to the general depression prevalent during the day are equivalent to a statement of existing conditions. Details so vivid then as not to require statement, are frequently withheld. There are sidelights, however, which give a main outline of the period and permit such colorful views of the stringency of the times as to bring them close to our own.

An era of exorbitant land speculation and over expansion preceded the panic of 1819 in Missouri as elsewhere in the United States. The figures for the land sales of the period are almost incredible.¹ During 1814 the sales amounted to 864,536 acres and in 1819, they reached 5,475,648 acres—a total that was not to be reached again for fifteen years.² James Flint, a Scotchman who came down the Ohio to St. Louis in an open boat in 1819, records that land-hungry reconnoitering parties spent as much as a whole week in the woods searching out the best lands to be bought at forthcoming sales. Speculation in town sites rivaled that in farms. Apparently, every promising location along the river was seized upon and boomed as a future city. Only the names of the former ghost towns of 1819-1820, such as those of Wocondo, Belfast, Bainbridge, Missouriiton, Monticello,

¹"It is said that the fever of speculation was even more rampant in Missouri than in other parts of the country." (Meigs, M. M., *The Life of Thomas Hart Benton*, p. 190.)

²Cable, J. R., *The Bank of The State of Missouri*, p. 33.

Roche au Pierce, Washington, and countless others³ remain to tell the story of the speculative craze of the period. It is actually recorded that one tract of land, the only description of which was that it was situated thirty miles north of St. Louis, was put up at auction and sold to an eager bidder.⁴

Everywhere optimism and contemplation of future expansion prevailed. No better example can be cited than St. Louis, if one judges from the first city directory issued in the year 1821. The little directory swells with pride and importance in the boast of St. Louis' rapid development. The editor tells his subscribers in the thriving town (with a population of 4,598 in 1820), that he recollects "killing the buffalo at the same place where Mr. Philipson's Ox saw and flour mill now stand," and tells in glowing terms, in spite of the depression then beginning to be felt, of the erection of an "elegant" and "fine brick cathedral" at the same spot where formerly stood an old log church. Forgetful of pigs with the run of muddy streets, and of garbage that frequently littered the sidewalks, the little directory exults that St. Louis' "progress in civilization and improvement is wonderful," and that it is a place where "both scholar and courtier could move in a circle suiting their choice and taste." With its air of sophistication and unbounded confidence the little directory refers to the "noise, heat, and dust of a busy town," and gloats in the prospect of direct communication of the "emporium" of St. Louis with "Montreal, New York, and Philadelphia," and, at some future day, by way of the Missouri and Columbia rivers, with *India*. Such were the rosy days of prosperity and hope which preceded panic and depression in Missouri.

While the national crises was precipitated in the East as early as 1818, following the sudden curtailment of credit and the calling in of loans by the Second United States Bank in order to save itself from the ruin threatened by the orgy of speculation and over expansion, the day of reckoning did not come to Missouri until later. The fall of 1819 and the spring of 1820, if newspaper accounts are to be credited,

³Houck, Louis, *A History of Missouri*, Vol. 3, p. 184.

⁴Carr, Lucien, *Missouri a Bone of Contention*, p. 134.

brought to Missouri an unusually large number of immigrants of the wealthier type,⁵ so that "to borrow, to buy and to sell again to the newcomer," continued to be the rage. The drain of money to the East, consequently, does not seem to have been immediately felt in Missouri. The reaction, however, when it did come, was both sharp and severe. Upon the failure of its only two banks, the State almost at once found itself drained of currency, and the suffering of the people so acute, that by the spring of 1821 it was confronted with the pressure for legislative action. Probably in no part of the West during the panic and depression was the scarcity of money and the consequent derangement of business more keenly felt than in Missouri.⁶

The change from good to bad times appears to have taken place near the latter part of 1820. The cessation of immigration during that year was commonly thought to have been the immediate cause of the reaction.⁷ Whether due to the hard times in the East, to the uncertain conditions existing on the eve of statehood, or to the bitter agitation of the slavery question which was rocking the nation, immigration seems suddenly to have come to a halt. No longer does one read of the fabulous migrations of immigrants to the El Dorado of the Boons Lick country when one hundred and twenty wagons per week for nine or ten weeks could be seen passing through St. Charles,⁸ and of immigrants, who, when asked whither they were bound, replied "To the Boons Lick to be sure."⁹ With the cessation of immigration, towns ceased their phenomenal growth. No longer are instances cited of towns such as Franklin, which, established in 1817, was able by 1820 to boast of a fire department and a newspaper. On the contrary, town sites became fields again.¹⁰ Another striking indication of the drop in immigration is

⁵St. Louis *Missouri Gazette*, October 20, November 3, and November 8, 1819; January 26, 1821.

⁶Carr, *Missouri a Bone of Contention*, p. 137.

⁷*Missouri Gazette*, April 11, 1821; *Missouri Intelligencer*, July 21, 1821.

⁸*Saint Louis Enquirer*, November 10, 1819.

⁹McMaster, J. B., *History of the People of the United States*, Vol. 4, p. 509.

¹⁰Johnson, Ella, *The Economic Development of the Boonslick Country According to the Missouri Intelligencer*, p. 38. (Typewritten Master's thesis in the Library of the University of Missouri.)

the decrease in the number of county organizations. From 1816 to 1821, nineteen counties were organized; from 1821 to 1824, only five.¹¹ With the check in immigration, the period of extraordinary growth was ended.

The land speculator, the farmer, and the merchant immediately experienced the disastrous consequences of the unexpected and sudden fall in immigration. Land prices tumbled. The incredible days when a Kentucky pioneer could sell out his holdings in Missouri at thirty dollars an acre and return home to buy his old lands at fifteen,¹² were pricked as a bubble. Speculators were caught hopelessly in debt for lands which they had bought on the easy government terms of two dollars an acre with credit for three-fourths of the price of the purchase. Farmers who had "taken up" more land than they needed in the expectation of selling a part to the immigrant for a higher price than had been paid, and so to make the price of the original purchase, were unable to sell.¹³ Land, judging from the newspaper accounts of the day, was no longer a marketable product. Just how great was the complaint of the fall in the land market is shown by the following extract from the *Missouri Gazette* in the spring of 1821. ". . . Such is the depreciation of the value of property, that the accumulated labor of years is not now sufficient to pay a trifling debt, and property some years since which could have sold for eight to ten thousand dollars, will scarcely, at this time, pay a debt of five hundred . . ." Newspapers which had formerly contained numerous glowing items of land sales came to omit them altogether. To aggravate the situation, crops were good and the farmers for the first time were left with a surplus and no market for their produce.¹⁴ Instead of being able to sell

¹¹Shoemaker, F. C., *A History of Missouri and Missourians*, p. 282f.

¹²Thwaites, R. G., *Early Western Travels, 1748-1846*. Vol. 9, p. 204.

¹³The legislative committee appointed to investigate the Bank of Missouri reported in June, 1821, ". . . Instead of contenting themselves with one tract of land and paying the whole amount thereon, [many individuals] divided their money into as many parcels, and purchased as many tracts as the whole would secure, hoping, before the next installment came due, that a sale of the part would pay for the whole." (*St. Louis Enquirer*, July 7, 1821.)

¹⁴Johnson, *The Economic Development of the Boonslick Country*, p. 39.

corn to the immigrant, as one correspondent wrote to the *Missouri Gazette*, "at \$3.00 to \$5.00 per barrel at my own door"¹⁵ and pork and beef at \$5.00 a hundred pounds, corn fell as low as 10¢ a bushel in 1823,¹⁶ and beef and pork to \$1.50 per hundred pounds. Discouragement brought about an exodus of immigrants, for some, giving up the battle with poverty and debt, returned to their old homes in Kentucky and Tennessee.

The plight of the merchant equalled that of the land holder. Expecting the usual flood of immigrants, he had gone deeply in debt to the East as had been his custom, stocking his shelves to capacity with goods for which Eastern creditors now demanded payment.¹⁷ To make his situation even worse, the merchant in his optimism had permitted a lavish extension of credit, expecting, as did everyone, to get rich on the immigrant.¹⁸ With the pressure of his Eastern creditors upon him, he in turn had to make demands upon the customers indebted to him. As the process of liquidation became more general, and as the flow of money set in toward the East, collections became increasingly difficult.

Only the failure of the banks remained to complete the disaster. Missouri's two banks, the Bank of St. Louis and the Bank of Missouri, in common with other Western banks, had helped to finance the speculative mania. Compelled by the general contraction of 1818 either to redeem their notes in specie or to close their doors, they had called in their loans with the consequence that cheap paper tended to drive out specie, and money became increasingly scarce. The Bank of St. Louis, unable to withstand the increasing pressure, and torn by internal dissension, had gone under in the general crash of 1819. Among those to whom it had brought total financial ruin was Moses Austin. The Bank of Missouri, however, managed to hold out until August, 1821, when the strain became too great, and it, likewise,

¹⁵*Missouri Gazette*, January 26, 1820; *St. Louis Enquirer*, July 21, 1819.

¹⁶Johnson, *The Economic Development of the Boonslick Country*, p. 44.

¹⁷Johnson, *The Economic Development of the Boonslick Country*, p. 38.

¹⁸Carr, *Missouri a Bone of Contention*, p. 136.

was compelled to close its doors.¹⁹ The collapse of the two banks by the summer of 1821, left the State without a single banking institution.

The condition of the currency is well illustrated by the following letter to the *St. Louis Enquirer*, entitled "On the Necessity of Establishing a Currency Suitable to the Wants of the Citizens of the State":²⁰

. . . . [The] suddenly creating and almost as suddenly withdrawing a large amount of currency . . . has been felt . . . particularly in this State where much distress has been suffered, and that without the fault of those who have to endure it. About three years ago there was a considerable emigration to this state, and large quantities of the notes of the banks of Kentucky, Ohio, North and South Carolina and Tennessee were brought to and circulated in this state [If] the amount of the notes of the Bank of Missouri beyond what is now in circulation is taken into consideration, it probably amounted to nearer ten hundred thousand dollars. The banks of Ohio were first discredited and its notes withdrawn from circulation; then followed all the rest, and the Bank of Missouri was compelled to limit its issues The notes of the Bank of Missouri now circulating in the state cannot amount to more than one hundred thousand dollars. Supposing the highest data to be correct, the circulating medium has been diminished nine tenths; but not in any manner to overstate the amount, let it be taken at five hundred thousand dollars, and the diminution will then be four fifths . . . what would be thought of a man who lent his money to another, received the legal interest, and required to be paid a dollar for every twenty cents that he had lent? Would not human nature revolt at such a demand? And yet every man who calls in a loan of money, made when such was the state of the currency, actually does this; he compels his debtor to part with five times as much property, or, more frequently, he takes that amount of property to satisfy his demands. This is the situation of many worthy citizens in these times . . . Can there be a greater distress imagined than a man who has for years manured his ground with the sweat of his brow, to have it taken from him for one-fourth of its value (for this is the case compared to the time when he made his contract) and he and his family driven out to seek another home . . . In the present case what is wished . . . is that relief may be given to the citizens of the state . . . by establishing a STATE BANK . . .

¹⁹To the failure of the Bank of Missouri, in the affairs of which Thos. H. Benton was involved as a director and borrower, may be largely attributed his later hard money policies and his sobriquet, "Old Bullion." (See Cable, *The Bank of the State of Missouri*, p. 72f.)

²⁰*St. Louis Enquirer*, March 17, 1821.

A legislative committee, later appointed to investigate the Bank of Missouri and the cause of its financial difficulties, issued a report which proved the correspondent of the *Enquirer* not far wrong in his estimates. The bank in 1819, the committee reported, had notes of other banks and specie worth \$700,544.50 and in 1821, \$125,316.64—a diminution of a ratio of nearly six to one.²¹

The newspapers during the latter part of 1820, and of 1821, are full of "hard times." The most industrious citizens, correspondents complained, were no longer able to meet their obligations, while property was said to be sacrificed daily at such rates that even the fees of law officers could not be realized.²² While there is no way of telling how much land was sold for taxes, long lists of names with the lands to be sold, took up almost entire pages in the newspapers. The sheriff of St. Louis county on August 21, 1821, advertised 14,271 acres of land and 105 town lots, and Joseph Patterson, collector of Howard county, 8,311 acres, and 14 town lots, for sale to meet delinquent taxes.²³ Few men, it was said, attended, or had the means to attend, the sheriff's sales.²⁴ That debtors were put in prison for debt is shown by numerous notices. The single issue of the *Missouri Gazette* for July 25, 1821, contains sixteen statements of insolvent debtors discharged from imprisonment for debt. Creditors pressed their debtors, and business firms announced through newspapers their willingness to take produce in payment of debts—beef, pork, tobacco, lard, salt, sugar, beeswax, honey and country linen were articles named as acceptable.²⁵ One correspondent wrote to the *Missouri Gazette* complaining of the affluence of wealth by the side of poverty—of elegantly dressed ladies with tasseled kid boots and plumed hats costing fifteen to twenty dollars apiece, and of corseted dandies with their great coats of plaid and multitudes of capes, and their

²¹Hamilton, W. T., *The Relief Movement in Missouri, 1820-1822*, pp. 33, 34. (Typewritten Master's thesis in the Library of the University of Missouri.)

²²*Missouri Gazette*, April 11, 1821.

²³Hamilton, *The Relief Movement in Missouri, 1820-1822*, p. 37.

²⁴*Missouri Gazette*, April 14, 1821.

²⁵*Missouri Intelligencer*, August 5, 1822.

gold watch chains sparkling with gems and crystals, who drove about with reckless disregard of the poor pedestrian, in fine gigs costing at least six hundred and sixty dollars.²⁶

A typical letter of the times is that printed in the *Missouri Gazette* of April 18, 1821, signed "An Old Farmer":

Our legislature has loaded us with enormous taxes and taken no measures to enable us to pay; the assessors are going the rounds, and in a short time the collectors will follow, and where is the money to come from to pay the tax as well as other debts—every species of circulating medium having disappeared? That broom of destruction, the sale of public lands, has swept off all our currency, and our private land rights remaining unconfirmed, are of no value . . . This is the beginning of woe!

Never was there such a time in this country of so much pecuniary distress as at present—stop law, property law and state bank are the constant and general topics of conversation, and although the people differ in opinion on the subject, all agree that something must be done to save us from final ruin. But whatever is to be done must not be delayed any longer; in less than nine months half a million of property will be sacrificed to pay, perhaps, not the twentieth part;—the honest and industrious will be turned out on the country, and the creditor little better for the sacrifice,—our country will be ruined, and it will take an age to bring it back to its pristine state.

The result was a vigorous agitation for legislative relief and the division of the State into bitterly contending relief and anti-relief factions.²⁷ Farmers, speculators, and land holders generally, condemned the government for its failure to provide remedial legislation and demanded immediate action in behalf of their woes.²⁸ Men of property, the legal profession, and the more well-to-do classes, on the other hand, were as bitterly opposed, and denounced the stop laws, property laws and cheap currency resorted to by other Western states as but dishonest means for escaping the payment of just debts.²⁹ Their opposition, however, was

²⁶*Missouri Gazette*, February 16, 1820.

²⁷See Hamilton, *The Relief Movement in Missouri, 1820-1822*, Chapters 1 and 2.

²⁸*Missouri Gazette*, April 11, 1821; *Missouri Intelligencer*, June 1, 1821.

²⁹*Missouri Gazette*, March 7, 14, 1821; *Missouri Intelligencer*, October 16, 1821.

not strong enough to stem the tide of popular demand. On June 4, 1821, the governor convened a special session of the legislature to consider the situation.³⁰

Governor McNair in addressing the Assembly on the momentous occasion of this special relief session, said in part:

. . . . I have convened you at this early period for the purpose of laying before you several matters which appear to me to be urgent in their nature and of vital importance to the state, hoping from your wisdom and prudence a remedy for some of the evils under which the country labors which my own reflection has not been able to devise. This measure which will necessarily occasion considerable public expense, has not been adopted without the maturest deliberation and absolute conviction on my part, *that the public interest and safety require the prompt intervention of the General Assembly*

The legislature, following the example of other Western states, passed a number of relief measures.³¹ Briefly, these were as follows: (1) "An act for the relief of debtors and creditors," a conservative "stay law" by which the land holder, under certain conditions, was able to redeem land sold for debt. (2) "An act to abolish imprisonment for debt in certain cases," which alleviated the stringency of the existing law for insolvent debtors. (3) "An act reserving certain property from execution," which exempted from execution certain possessions of a family, including one cow, one calf, one bed and furniture, one spinning wheel, one loom and other articles of property. (4) "An act for the establishment of loan offices," by which the legislature undertook to remedy the evils of the currency situation.

Of all the acts passed by the legislature, that providing for loan offices was by far the most important and excited

³⁰While relief seems to have been the immediate reason for the calling of the legislature, consideration of the terms upon which Missouri was to be admitted to the Union, and action upon several proposed amendments to the State Constitution, were also given as reasons by Governor McNair. (Leopard, Buel, and Shoemaker, F. C., *Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of the State of Missouri*, Vol. I, pp. 17-20.)

³¹*Laws of Missouri, First General Assembly, Special Session, 1821*, pp. 32-36, 29-32, 21, 11-20. See also Hamilton, *The Relief Movement in Missouri, 1820-1822*, Chapters 1 and 2.

the greatest controversy and dissension. By this act, says Carr,³² the legislature "endeavored to accomplish the impossible feat of paying something with nothing." In addition, it was to be laden with far reaching consequences for Missouri. For, in an effort to "buy off" the depression, the legislature in passing the Loan Office Law, passed an act which was later declared unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court and by the United States Supreme Court in 1830, with the result that the infant State of Missouri was burdened in 1829 with its first debt of \$70,000—a debt which was to require twelve years of difficult financing to liquidate. Another later result of the operation of the act was that although \$184,788 of loan office certificates were issued, according to a later report of the State auditor and treasurer, \$193,647 were redeemed—\$8,859 more than the original issue.

In substance, the system of loan offices established by the law was intended to take the place of a state bank. By providing for the issuing of \$200,000 worth of paper certificates in denominations varying from fifty cents to ten dollars, and making them receivable in payment of taxes, salaries, auditor's warrants and certain debts, the legislature hoped to create the sorely needed currency, the lack of which was thought to be the fundamental cause of the depression. These certificates, however, instead of being accepted, were discredited almost as soon as issued, with the result that the currency situation, instead of being improved, was, if anything, made worse.

Public opinion, agitated by the controversy of the depreciated loan office certificates, soon reached the pitch of furor over the question of the loan offices. One faction, mainly the relief faction which was clamoring for still more money, demanded an increase in the amount of the certificates, while the other, chiefly the anti-relief faction, demanded the legal repudiation of the paper and the repeal of the Loan Office Law. The conflict of newspaper correspondents and editors³³ came to assume the proportions of a battle royal

³²Carr, *Missouri a Bone of Contention*, p. 136.

³³*Missouri Gazette*, March 6-27, and April 19, 1822.

as the decisions of legal cases involving loan office money entered the arena. Political campaigns throughout the remainder of 1821 and 1822, came to be waged primarily on the issue of the loan office and the relief measures, and candidates were expected to state exactly how they stood. An amusing sidelight of the times is that afforded by the two political dinners given at Franklin on July 14, and July 28, 1822. The supporters of those members of the legislature who had voted *against* the Loan Office Law honored their representatives with a dinner at which the toasts drunk were many and deep. Among those offered were the following: "To the loan office, established by the desertion of every principle of moral and political honesty;" "To the relief laws, useful only to procrastinate the downfall of the idle and extravagant;" and, "To the town of Franklin whose atmosphere is uncongenial to the constitution of 'Rag Barons.'" The pro-relief party, not to be outdone, retorted by fêting their representatives who had voted *for* the Loan Office act at an equally "elegant and splendid dinner" at the Franklin Hotel. Joyously and triumphantly, retaliatory toasts were proffered to "Our members of the legislature who voted for relief—their motives honest and noble;" "To our once prosperous Missouri sacrificed without the interposition of relief;" and, "To the Loan Office, the legitimate daughter of the constitution; heavenly boon, who will bless those who curse her, preserve the oppressed, and stop up the avenue of ruin."

The dramatic setting for the fall elections of 1822 and for the subsequent meeting of the legislature was completed by the bitter dissension over the proposed constitutional amendments.²⁴ Discussion of the amendments rivaled that of the discussion of the issue of relief only because they were so closely related to it. The majority of the ten proposed amendments provided for government economy through the reduction of the salaries of State officers and the abolition of the Court of Chancery, while two of them opened a loophole for the removal of circuit and supreme court judges and provided for the appointment of new ones by joint vote of

²⁴See Hamilton, *The Relief Movement in Missouri, 1820-1822*, pp. 189-207.

both houses of the General Assembly. The anti-relief element saw in the amendments the designing schemes of the relief party and pointed to those regarding the judiciary as weapons of "judge breaking" desired by the proponents of relief in order to subject the State judges to the legislature and thereby to prevent their interference with legislative relief on the basis of unconstitutionality—an accusation that seems to have been well founded, since court decisions were almost unanimously against the constitutionality of the loan office law. A Kentucky newspaper, watching the contest as it was being waged in the Missouri newspapers, admiringly commented that the constitutional "essays" which appeared in the *St. Louis Republican*, "would do credit to the ablest republican writers of the age."²⁵ The contest of the election over, and the amendments defeated by the choice of candidates, the anti-relief group heralded the outcome as a victory "for the integrity of the constitution and the honest payment of debts."²⁶

Following the election and the defeat of radical candidates for the legislature, the issue of the loan office and its constitutionality was definitely settled by the passage at the November session of the legislature of initial measures for the repeal of the law—a step which anticipated the subsequent decisions of the State and Federal supreme courts declaring the law unconstitutional. With the loan office question out of the way, hard times and relief drop almost entirely out of the papers. It is not, however, that hard times seem to have come to an end, for this does not appear to have been the case. Periodic references are made to the "pressure of the times," while notices of the sale of property for taxes continue in the newspapers. The paucity of advertisements in the papers indicate that merchants' stocks were low, and prices maintained their low level. That there was a continued scarcity of currency is shown by the fact that in many transactions barter seems to have remained the only way around the difficulty. Nevertheless, it appears

²⁵*St. Louis Republican*, October 9, 1822.

²⁶*St. Louis Republican*, October 9, 1822.

that after the initial shock was over, the people settled down to enduring their hardships as best they could, and to alleviating them by their own efforts.

A new energy and outlook on the part of the inhabitants, which contrasted strangely with that of the old days of easily acquired affluence, succeeded that of political agitation for relief.³⁷ New enterprises, such as the Santa Fe trade and the expansion of the steamboat and ferry traffic, were inaugurated in an effort to find a way out of economic stagnation. Also, a great deal of attention was given to home manufacture and the opening of new agricultural markets through the raising of crops such as tobacco. The fur trade took a new activity and prosperity. Immigration likewise regained its former proportions. But despite these hopeful signs, the "road out" was uphill, laborious, and long, for although the foundations of a new economic prosperity were being laid, money continued to be scarce and the times difficult. Little in the way of a pronounced improvement was made for a number of years.

³⁷While panaceas drop out of the picture, continued agitation for a State bank eventually culminated in the establishment of the Bank of the State of Missouri in 1837.

THE FIRST ROADS WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

BY MRS. IDA M. SCHAAF

The first trails of white men west of the Mississippi were those of the seekers of gold and silver. The quest for riches led Coronado's men to push far into the great American desert, De Soto's men to cross the Mississippi and wander in the swamps and forests, and, nearly two centuries later, La Motte Cadillac's men to penetrate beyond the Mississippi. Cadillac's efforts to find mines of silver in Louisiana resulted in his discovery of the lead deposits at Mine La Motte, which he first opened and worked in 1715. It is probable that the difficulty of getting the lead to a market discouraged him in working the mine extensively at that time, and but two years later (1717) he was recalled to France. In 1723, Philip Renault obtained from the King of France grants to the territory where ore was known to exist. One of these grants included Mine La Motte, where Renault engaged in mining operations until 1742. The lead, moulded in the shape of collars, was hung on the necks of pack horses and in this fashion was transported for shipment to the most accessible place on the Mississippi, which was Ste. Genevieve.

The white settlers and miners from necessity adopted the mode of travel used by the Indians, i. e., on horseback or on foot, and in canoes. They wisely followed the trails already laid out by the Indians over the hills. Indian attack was less dangerous on the ridges than in the low lands; danger signals could be sent up more readily from high places; the ridges could be travelled in both wet and dry weather; and last, but not least, the large streams had to be forded far away from the river, where they ran broad and shallow.

THE STE. GENEVIEVE-MINE LA MOTTE TRAIL

The trail from Mine La Motte to Ste. Genevieve over which the lead was carried was called Three Notch Road, because of the fact that it was blazed by means of three

notches on the trees along its route. This was the most reliable method of marking a path in the wilderness. It is possible, even at this time (1933), to follow this old road almost its entire length. In many places a dead tree or a stump still bears the mark of the woodman's axe, and on the crest of a hill at about the highest point between Ste. Genevieve and Mine La Motte, stands a beautiful white oak, proclaiming the old trail by the three notches on its trunk.

This is the oldest road in Missouri. It led from the little settlement of miners at Ste. Genevieve on the Mississippi and ran through a hollow to the top of the hill. The part through the hollow is still in use. It turned south and kept to the crest of the hill until it was necessary to come down into the valley to ford the River Aux Vases, a dangerous stream full of quicksand, as the name implies. A bridge spans the creek now at this old ford, which is known as Krensley's ford. Near this ford are several springs strongly impregnated with salts of iron and, at one time, a health resort, known as the Judge James place, flourished here. The trail continued south and very slightly west. Leaving the present village of Ozora (which did not then exist) to the west, it passed through a rocky lane and forded the Little Saline where the present road fords it. About three miles south of this ford the trail is lost for several miles. It turned to the southeast, climbed a rocky hill, coming down on the south side to ford the Big Saline at a wide and dangerous place. Fortunately for the modern traveller, the new road avoids all these difficulties. The old trail is again picked up near a ford of the Saline east of the original ford and may be followed for many miles. It runs south about two and a half miles to the Mattingly farm, then turns sharply to the southwest, and about two miles farther on, it again fords the Big Saline at a point on its South Fork where a large tract of land was granted by the Spanish government to Francois Vallé, commandant at Ste. Genevieve, and where he had built, by one Henry Tucker, a stone flour mill.

This mill was in operation until it was destroyed by a fire of unknown origin during the Civil war. The ruins of this mill stand majestically beside the stream. Full grown

trees fill the interior and rise above the ruined walls, and a gigantic millstone lies on the hillside. Nothing remains of the little settlement that once was there. Beside the mill, near the creek, is a spring. Since the distance between Ste. Genevieve and the La Motte mines was great, it was necessary that there be a place midway to camp overnight. The camp was at this spot beside the spring. At the top of the hill, where the road runs narrow under the spreading branches of the trees between two deep, wooded ravines, is a place known as Twin Hollows. It is easy to imagine that the early traveller hastened his pace at this point; the danger from a hidden foe—Indian or animal—no doubt caused him to ignore the beautiful view at this point. Farther on, at the crest of the hill, stands the tree with the three notches. From here, the trail winds down into the valley where it emerges from the wood and joins the new and modern Highway 61. A small stream runs here. Originally the trail crossed the creek and climbed the long, winding hill. Now, modern engineering has thrown a concrete bridge over it, eliminating much of the climb and also much of the beauty of the route. Here is the dividing line between St. Francois and Madison counties, and from this point the trail follows Highway 61 to Mine La Motte, having passed through Ste. Genevieve county, and parts of Perry and St. Francois, to finish in Madison county. In the French and Spanish periods all of this territory was part of the original District of Ste. Genevieve.

In 1742 Renault, believing he had exhausted the supply of mineral (his was only surface mining), returned to France. In 1770 [1796 or 1800], Francois Vallé, Jean Baptiste Pratte, and Jean Baptiste St. Gemme [Beauvais] obtained a grant to the Mine La Motte property and built furnaces and equipment to mine below the surface, and the old trail again came into use. These miners used ox carts to convey the lead to Ste. Genevieve. Over the hills and across the large streams, lead was carried by horse and ox carts to the river. Later the mines were leased by the owners and have been in operation almost continuously ever since, though the old trail has long been abandoned.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY

A second early trail, even more important than the one to Mine La Motte, led from Ste. Genevieve north to St. Louis and south to New Madrid. In the villages of St. Louis and Ste. Genevieve it was called *Rue Royale*. By the French in general it was called *Le Chemin de Roi*, and by the Spanish, *El Camino Real*. The English translation of these names is "The King's Highway."

In Houck's *History of Missouri*, Volume I, p. 225, is found this clear, general description of the King's Highway:

Long after De Soto's march an Indian trail ran along the Mississippi on the same ridge traversed by De Soto and his followers, and extending farther north, following the divide between the waters of the Mississippi and the waters of White Water, Castor and St. Francois to Ste. Genevieve, and passing up the north fork of Gabourie creek and across Establishment creek, across the Meramec to St. Louis. This trace connected the four Spanish posts, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Cape Girardeau and New Madrid; and also Little Prairie, and passed through the Shawnee and Delaware Indian villages on Apple Creek. Along this Indian trail or path the first public road in Missouri was located and cut out by act of the Territorial legislature in 1807 [1808]. This road, we may also suppose, was to some extent opened by the military expedition, which was organized by De Lassus in 1802, and which moved from Ste. Genevieve to New Madrid.

The title and section one of the act of 1808, which located the first American public road in Missouri, reads:¹

An Act to provide for the laying out of roads from the town of Saint Louis to the town of Saint Genevieve, from thence to the town of Cape Girardeau, and from thence to the town of New Madrid.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Louisiana, [as follows:]

1. The governor be authorised and required to appoint three proper persons, one of whom shall be a practical surveyor, as commissioners, whose duty it shall be, as soon after their appointment as may be, to lay out and designate by plain and distinguishable marks, on the nearest and best ground, a wagon road from the town of Saint Louis, to the town of Saint Genevieve, from thence to the town of Cape Girardeau, and from thence to the town of New Madrid

The foregoing is hereby declared to be a law of the territory of Louisiana, to take effect and be in force from and after the passage thereof.

June 20, 1808.

¹*Laws of a Public and General Nature of the District of Louisiana, of the Territory of Louisiana, of the Territory of Missouri, and of the State of Missouri, up to the Year 1824*, Vol. I, pp. 188-189.

DETAILED ROUTE OF THE KING'S HIGHWAY

In 1850, the old road acquired the name of the Telegraph Road, when the first telegraph line was established in Missouri and poles were planted along the original trail almost in its entirety. A school house built near the ford of Platin creek in Jefferson county was called the Telegraph School House. It is still standing on what is now known as the Bob Madison farm. Recently this farm has been sold and is now a poultry farm.

Let us follow the old trail, known both before and after 1808 as the King's Highway, and after 1850 as the Telegraph Road, and now as Highways 61 and 25. Beginning in St. Louis, where it was called Rue Royale, it started north of the church block (2nd to 3rd, Walnut to Market streets), and ran south until it forded Petite Rivière, afterwards called Mill Creek, at what is now 4th street and Chouteau avenue. It followed what is now Broadway to 2nd Carondelet avenue, ran along 2nd Carondelet avenue to Elwood street, curving around the high hill that stood there, followed Elwood street to Michigan avenue, and proceeded along Michigan avenue to its foot, where it forded the River Des Pères at the site of Tamaroa, the first white settlement in what is now Missouri. This settlement was established in 1700, by Jesuit missionaries with bands of the Kaskaskia and Tamaroa Indians and a few French. It lasted five or six years, but the location, it is thought, was regarded as unhealthful, and they moved south and settled at Kaskaskia.

The exact location of the ford of the Des Pères is lost, as is also the road leading up the hill, but the trail is picked up again just beyond Luxembourg at Bobrink on the Le May ferry road. From here to the Meramec it follows the Telegraph Road (now the road to the White House, the Jesuit house of retreat). That this is the original road is proved by several old houses which are of unmistakeable early French origin. The Meramec was crossed by a ferry built and maintained by one Jean Baptiste Gamache, who received a large tract of land from the Spanish government for this service. In 1780, Gamache's ferry was discontinued because

of Indian disturbances. Gamache lived at Carondelet until his death. How the Meramec was crossed after 1780 is not definitely known. The present bridge, where Highway 61 crosses the river, is about a mile west of the original crossing, and on the south side of the Meramec the old trail is lost among the wheat fields and can only be found for short distances, one of these places being on the outer edge of Montassano Springs and another at Kimmswick, where the site of the original ford over Glaise creek was proudly pointed out to the writer by Mr. Waters, an old resident who has since died. The Missouri Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a granite boulder to mark the spot in 1917.

From Kimmswick to Festus the old trail plays hide and seek and can be found only in small stretches—one where it ran along Glaise creek below Sulphur Springs, another where it runs along the east side of the Frisco railroad tracks, crosses the tracks at Schmidt Station, climbs the hill to the west, coming down on the west side of Pevely at Jersey Station on the Frisco. From here to Horine Station much of the original road is still in good condition. At Horine it is lost again, for the new road avoids the great hill known as Bull Hill, where the sandstone is taken out for the Pittsburgh Glass Factory at Crystal City, and the old ford over Joachim creek has been abandoned.

Above Festus it comes down from Bull Hill, passes under the Frisco tracks, up the hill again, and, leaving Festus to the south, it passes through the Gamble property and we find it again a little east of the Bob Madison farm house, which is known as the Telegraph School House. Just below this house it forded Plattin creek, which is now spanned by a narrow bridge at the place of the original ford. From here to Bloomsdale the present road follows practically the route of the original trail. This turn to the right was necessitated by the high cliffs along the river and the deep and dangerous streams. At the meeting of the lines of Ste. Genevieve and Jefferson counties the Isle au Bois is now crossed by a concrete bridge near the original ford. Between this stream and Bloomsdale the road passes through beautiful

scenery, climbing to the crests of hills and overlooking valleys that compare very favorably with the valleys of the Swiss Alps.

At Bloomsdale the original ford was some 150 yards above where the dangerous and treacherous Establishment creek is now crossed by an iron bridge. The creek was dangerous on account of its great watershed; the slightest fall of rain caused it to rise rapidly and grow very swift and deep. In addition to this fact, its bed is of sand. A halfway camp, or little settlement, was on the east bank beside the usual spring: a blacksmith shop, where horses might be shod and wagons required, a tiny store, where necessary things might be bought, and a distillery, where good whiskey might be had almost for the asking. The little village had no particular name but was called by the French *L'etablissement*, meaning the settlement. When the English speaking people came into possession, because of the similarity in spelling, they mistook the word *etablissement* for establishment, and thought it the name of the creek. The little colony was later moved across the creek to the present site and when a post office was opened, the name selected by the government from the three submitted was Bloomsdale. This name was suggested in honor of a very much respected Catholic priest, whose name was Blume. No doubt the English pronunciation and spelling of the name were adopted for the sake of clearness.

From the creek the old trail climbed the hill, followed the crest about eight miles, then came down what is now known as Trautman's hill on the western outskirts of Ste. Genevieve at the North Gabourie creek, which it followed, fording it a little east of where it is now spanned by a bridge. It then led up a hill into Rue Royale, now 3rd street, of the town of Ste. Genevieve, past the present court house and the house in which the first American court was held in 1804, down to the South Gabourie, where it is again lost. The old ford has been abandoned and the lane that ran up the hill from here past the Hetick house has been fenced in.

We pick up the old trail again between Highways 32 and 25 on the road that runs to the cemetery and the famous

Vallé spring, half a mile beyond which we come into the Three Notch Road and follow it to where that road turned to the southwest at the Mattingly farm. About two miles from this junction, the old trail runs into Highway 25 near the McClure place and passes through Brewer, Perryville, crosses Apple creek a few miles above its mouth, and proceeds through Cape Girardeau, Benton and Sikeston to New Madrid. In Perryville it passes on St. Marie street; in Cape Girardeau on Spanish street, in the heart of the business section; in Benton, on Winchester street; and in Sikeston, on Kingshighway, by which name it is known all the way to New Madrid.

At Bloomsdale another trail branched off to the west and led to the mines in Washington county at Potosi, which was called Mine à Breton, and at Old Mines. Cadillac may not have mined lead at Old Mines, but there is no doubt that Renault did, for bricks bearing his name have been found there and parts of the foundation of an old furnace may yet be seen near a little place known as Racola. Since this trail led over rocky hills, a second camp was necessary, and it was located at Petite Canada, now French Village, where the usual spring, blacksmith shop and small store were to be found.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF FICTION ON THE MISSOURI FRONTIER (1830-1860)

BY CARLE BROOKS SPOTTS

FOURTH ARTICLE

CHAPTER II—*Continued*

THE SHORT STORY

II

Almost unnoticed by the literary critics of the time,³¹ there developed in the West and Southwest during the period from 1830 to 1860 a type of fiction that has retained a great deal of its freshness and that gives us today our best picture in fiction of certain elements of river and squatter life. This rough, crude, sometimes *risqué* literature has come to be known as the "tall tale." The term is not exactly descriptive of these stories but does suggest one of the most important characteristics—humorous exaggeration.

The unorthodox nature of the writing was indicated by Joseph M. Field, actor, author, and editor, in his introduction to *The Drama in Pokerville*:

Certain scatterlings on the face of the land have been, for some time back, scribbling queer things for the amusement of the queer people, and, volume after volume, these things have been, queerly, condensing into book shape, taking upon themselves, moreover, certain decencies of bind-

³¹Rufus W. Griswold is an exception to this statement. In his Introduction to *The Prose Writers of America* (Philadelphia, 1870, new edition revised and enlarged), written in 1845, he said: "The comic literature of the United States must be looked for chiefly in those parts of the country which have yet furnished little or nothing of a different sort. There is an originality and riant boldness in some of the productions of the South and West which gives abundant promise for the future. And what we have, however coarsely stamped, is of the truest metal . . . It is necessary only to refer to Judge Longstreet's *Georgia Scenes* . . . and to other characteristic productions of southern and western men, to justify expectations of an original and indigenous literature of this kind from the cotton region and the valley of the Mississippi" (p. 37). Later in the volume, in connection with the writings of T. B. Thorpe, he says that "such stories have given a raciness all their own to two or three of our periodicals." He finds all of the stories contain passages of "bold, original, and indigenous, though sometimes not very delicate humor" (p. 546).

ing, and what not, and actually getting responsible persons to stand up and answer for their adoption into the more regularly begat, and better conditioned family of literature. They are called eccentric, to be sure, but then they are tolerated as being such, and satisfied with their reception; they are contentedly multiplying their numbers—we will not presume to say influence—day by day.²²

The "certain scatterlings" to whom Field probably refers were: first, the editor and contributors of the New Orleans *Picayune*; second, the editor and contributors of the New York *Spirit of The Times*; third, the editors and contributors of the St. Louis *Reveille*, especially John S. Robb and Field himself; and fourth, other writers for newspapers and magazines throughout the South and West. As Field has indicated, such writings were often republished in book form.

The principal way in which short stories told by these writers differ from those of Alphonso Wetmore is in the social element. The wild Indian here has disappeared. The hunter still tells his tale, but it covers a period long past, and much of the interest is in the audience sitting on the boiler deck of a steamer on the Mississippi or in the village "doggery." Stump speaking, horse racing, dancing, drinking, and love making abound. In other words, the second line of advance on the frontier has arrived, the lonely trapper and hunter having given way to the more or less permanent settler and his family. Mike Fink, "the last of the boatmen," and others of his kind have become legendary. Their place is taken by the steamboat crews on the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

The early Missouri writers—especially those along the Mississippi—took an active part in creating and recording these stories. The tales were closely associated, however, with similar productions from the states to the south. Augustus Baldwin Longstreet's *Georgia Scenes* is the first and most famous of the Southern volumes of this type. It was published in 1835 and 1840, but before that many

²²Field, Joseph M., *The Drama in Pokenville; The Bench and Bar of Jurytown and Other Stories*. By "Everpoint." (Joseph M. Field of the St. Louis *Reveille*.) (Philadelphia, [1847] c1846), pp. 5-6.

of the sketches and tales had appeared in his own newspaper.²³ When Judge Longstreet later became a preacher and college president he attempted to suppress this book, but he was unsuccessful. The book was reissued in 1875. It pictures the rough, fighting, boisterous life of the lower classes in Georgia at that time. In his preface to the Harper edition of *Georgia Scenes* (1840) he indicates the first-hand nature of his sources. The stories

consist of nothing more than fanciful combinations of real incidents and characters; and throwing into those scenes, which would otherwise be dull and insipid, some personal incident or adventure of my own, real or imaginary, . . . usually real . . . Some of the scenes are as literally true as the frailties of memory would allow them to be.²⁴

In 1882 Henry Watterson edited an excellent anthology of Southern writings of this school. To this volume he gave the descriptive title: *Oddities in Southern Life and Character* and pointed out in the preface the anecdotal but realistic qualities to be found in such stories.²⁵ Samuel Albert Link, in his study of the early Southern writers, also emphasized the fact that these stories were drawn from life and that they are faithful pictures of the life and characters. The characteristics noted by both Watterson and Link are similar to those found in the Missouri stories.

It is that local tone which makes valuable the realistic sketches of those old days of logrollings, cornshuckings, militia musters, political barbecues, camp meetings and county courts. The humor of those characters was not a made up affair, but just bubbled right out of the earth.²⁶

That there was also a legendary or mythical element connected with some of these tall tales cannot be denied. It resulted quite naturally from the attempt to make a good story more interesting by means of exaggeration. And since the happenings modify to some extent our conceptions

²³Originally in the *Augusta States Rights Sentinel* and other papers, 1832-1835.

²⁴Longstreet, Augustus Baldwin, *Georgia Scenes* (New York, 1840). Preface quoted by Samuel Albert Link in *Pioneers of Southern Literature* (Nashville, Dallas, 2 vols. 1899-1900), Vol. 2, p. 482.

²⁵Watterson, Henry (editor), *Oddities in Southern Life and Character* (Boston, New York, 1882), Preface, p. vii.

²⁶Link, *Pioneers of Southern Literature*, Vol. I, pp. 40-41.

of personality, the characters themselves lose some of their reality. However, the descriptive scenes and the dialect are convincingly done, and the essential portrait of the characters and of the rollicking times is realistic rather than romantic.²⁷

Such were the stories contemporary with the Missouri productions of this time. The Missouri stories mixed with those from other states in the New York *Spirit of The Times* which was the principal repository for such tales in the country. This "Chronicle of the Turf, Agriculture, Field Sports, Literature, and the Stage," as it was described in its subtitle, was edited by William T. Porter and flourished from 1831 to 1856. The Missouri stories were also combined with those from other regions for publication in volume form. In Missouri they were published principally in the St. Louis weekly *Reveille*.²⁸

In the prospectus of the first number the editors of the weekly *Reveille* announced a war of good humor against the common enemy, care. "A light and agreeable news sheet is what we design—noticing all local events, paying especial attention to all matters connected with the interests of the glorious West." They will not offend good taste or delicacy, and "none need look to find us philosophical, aristocratical, agricultural, horticultural, democratical, mechanical, political, polemical, critical, quizzical, or anything else in particular, though the probability is that we shall be a little of each in general, and a good deal of one or the other on occasion." About two-thirds of the paper is made up of short news

²⁷For a further discussion of this question see Rourke, *American Humor, A Study of the National Character* (New York, 1931), pp. 67-70; *American Literature*, Vol. 3 (November, 1931), pp. 342-343; Vol. 4 (May, 1932), Vol. 4, p. 209.

²⁸A few of the stories had appeared in the daily *Reveille*, which was started in May, 1844, with Charles Keemle, Joseph M. Field and Matthew C. Field as editors. But when the weekly edition was begun on July 15, 1844, the editors announced that the more important stories and other articles would be reprinted, as many people wanted complete files (*Weekly Reveille*, July 15, 1844). In December, 1844, Matthew Field died (*Ibid.*, December 23, 1844). The plant was destroyed during the great fire in St. Louis, May 17, 1849, but the paper was resumed one week later. In 1850 Joseph Field left to manage the Mobile Theatre, Keemle went to take over an Indian agency on the Platte river, and the *Reveille* was sold to the proprietors of the *People's Organ*, thereafter to be known as the *Weekly Organ and Reveille*, which, according to the *Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri* (Vol. 4, pp. 566 ff.), expired in 1851.

articles and anecdotes a paragraph or two in length. The rest of the paper is filled with light poetry,²⁹ essays and sketches,³⁰ and short stories. Material quoted from other magazines is mostly of a minor character. The critical articles are slight, but evidently were considered important even in the East.³¹ The leading short-story writers were John S. Robb, Joseph Field, and Sol Smith.

III

The most important of the Missouri representatives of the tall-tale type of fiction is John S. Robb, the "Solitaire" of the *Reveille*. Little is known of his life. He was a journeyman printer and became a contributor to the *Reveille* in December, 1844. Before that he had contributed to the *Picayune*. If his novelette, *The Western Wanderings of a Typo*, is partly

²⁹Much of the poetry was contributed by "Phasma" (Matthew Field), "Straws" or "Everpoint" (Joseph Field), and "Molna" (Mrs. R. S. Nichols). W. H. Venable in his book, *Beginnings of Literary Culture in the Ohio Valley* (Cincinnati, 1891) p. 376, says that Mrs. Anna P. Dinnies also used this pseudonym. Several other contributors whose identity I have not discovered are: "John Brown" of Weston, Missouri, and "Ihn." Typical of the tone of the poetry are the unsigned verses "Blue Ink."

"You ask me, Edward, what I think
Of this new fashionable ink.
I'll answer briefly, Ned:
Methinks it always will be blue;
At all events, when used by you,
It never will be red."

(August 12, 1844.)

Matthew Field seems to have had many admirers. At his death poetry dedicated to him appeared in the New Orleans *Picayune*, the New York *Spirit of the Times* and the *Reveille*. He is represented in R. W. Griswold's *The Poets and Poetry of America* (New York, 1877), p. 494.

³⁰See, for example, the humorous series, "American Poets," starting with the September 2, 1844, issue; the series called "Prairie and Mountain Life" written by Matthew Field and running in 1844 as a continuation of a series started in the *Picayune* in 1843; and the satire, "First Virginia Families" by "Solitaire" (John S. Robb) in the July 9, 1849, issue.

³¹Poe wrote to Joseph Field on June 15, 1846: "I have frequently seen in the *Reveille* notices of myself evincing a friendly feeling on your part, which, believe me I reciprocate in the most cordial manner." Poe enclosed an unfavorable article from the New York *Mirror* headed "Mr. Poe, and the N. Y. Literati," and some favorable comments from Elizabeth Barrett, Robert Browning, and some British literary journals. Poe requested Field to quote the English opinions and then say: "After all this, Mr. Poe may possibly make up his mind to endure the disapprobation of the *Mirror*." Poe promised "reciprocation when and where and how you please." (Whiting, Lillian, *Kate Field, A Record* [Boston, 1899] pp. 21-22.)

autobiographical, as it seems to be, he was the son of a Philadelphia printer. He at least has some of the qualities he gives to his hero, John Earl, who was witty, competent, intelligent, and unsteady.³² By 1854 we find him editing a California paper.³³ In the preface to his volume of stories he explains his inspiration and purpose as well as indicates his kinship with other Missouri and Southern writers. It was the humorous incident that attracted him most.³⁴

Like most of the writers already mentioned in this chapter Robb depends on exaggeration, in large part, for his effects. Several of the tales are tall stories proper. To this class belongs "A Cat Story Which Must Not Be Cur-tailed," in which Ben Snaggletree, "an old Mississippi *roarer*" who had been "fotched up on the river's bank" and "knew a *snappin'* turtle from a *snag*, without larnin'," tells how his life was saved by a big cat fish.³⁵

Similar in exaggeration is the story of the shoemakers who tried to surpass each other in advertising. After each has succeeded in outdoing the other several times, one of them, in desperation, hangs himself artistically outside his shop, leaving a note challenging the other to continue the contest. The tale is called "The Death Struggle; or the Way Smith Did Up Jones."³⁶ In the same class belongs the humorous sketch, "Settlement Fun; or Bill Sapper's Letter to His Cousin." This letter with the heading, "Liberti, Missury, May 6t. 18forty 5" tells of the arrival of triplets at the home of "little Jo Allen" and "little Mrs. Allen." Not only are the triplets a curiosity to the small village but Joe himself gets more attention than he cares for, the women of the village constantly parading before the shop to get

³²Robb, John S., *Streaks of Squatter Life and Far Western Scenes* (Philadelphia, 1843). It was reprinted in a volume containing some of "Madison Tensas's" stories (Philadelphia, 1858) under the title, *The Swamp Doctor's Adventures in the Southwest* Page references here are to this later edition.

³³Smith, Solomon Franklin, *Theatrical Management in the West and Southwest for Thirty Years* . . . (New York, 1868), p. 255.

³⁴Robb, *The Swamp Doctor's Adventures in the Southwest*, Preface, p. viii.

³⁵*Ibid.*, pp. 64-67.

³⁶*Ibid.*, pp. 180-183.

a good look at him. His attempt to flee to Texas is frustrated, and the women finally draw up resolutions limiting the unmarried to one look, the married to two looks a week.³⁷

Although exaggeration is found throughout most of the stories, other qualities are equally prominent. Illustrative of the crude humor of the frontier are the many practical jokes. Robb's most popular story, "Swallowing Oysters Alive," is of this sort. The consternation of the "green horn" who has swallowed his first oyster, which he now is made to realize is alive, causes the trouble.³⁸ "Hoss Allen's Apology; or the Candidate's Night in a Mosquito Swamp" is a practical joke inflicted by one candidate on another.³⁹ A third example is found in "The Second Advent; Tom Bagnell, the Engineer and Millerism." Tom's wife had half-convinced him that the end of the world was near. The captain and steamship mates seize the opportunity for fun and make life miserable for Tom as the great day approaches.⁴⁰

The practical joke is also mixed with the amorous tale in several of the sketches. Seth Tinker, homely Yankee, finds himself "double-crossed" by the German girl to whom he has been making advances. The family bulldog provides the slap-stick comedy scene.⁴¹ In "Courting in French Hollow" a French girl maneuvers her would-be lover into an awkward position. As usual the lover relates the unfortunate incident:

Courtin' is all slick enough when every body's agreed, and the gal ain't got no mischief in her, but when an extensive family, old maids, cross daddy, and a romantic old mommy, all want to put their fingers in the young uns dish of sweet doin's, and the gal's fractious besides, why a feller that's yearnin' arter matrimony is mity likely to get his fires dampened, or bust his biler.⁴²

³⁷*Ibid.*, pp. 156-161. This is one of a series of letters that began in the *Reveille* on April 27, 1846.

³⁸Meine, Franklin J. (editor). *Tall Tales of the Southwest* (New York, 1930), pp. 409 ff.; *Reveille*, December 9, 1844.

³⁹Robb. *The Swamp Doctor's Adventures in the Southwest*, pp. 70-83.

⁴⁰*Ibid.*, pp. 148-156.

⁴¹*Ibid.*, pp. 177-180. "Seth Tinker's First Courtship; How His Flame Was Quenched."

⁴²*Ibid.*, pp. 142-148. The fact that the figurative language of most of the Missouri stories is drawn from steamboating is indicative of the source of the stories.

In ingenuity of plot, in homely dialogue interspersed with outlandish figures of speech, and in realistic presentation of squatter life with its dancing, drinking, and love making, Robb's stories of courtship are perhaps the equal of any produced during the era. Usually the teller of the tale has been unsuccessful in courtship, usually a fight results between rival lovers, and usually exaggerated slap-stick comedy effects are used without restraint. "Nettle Bottom Ball; or Betty Jone's Tumble in the Mush Pan" has several of these characteristics. We may illustrate the racy language and unconventional figures by Jim Syke's description:

Well, if they [Betty Jones'] eyes warn't a brace of movin' light-houses Talk about gracefulness, did you ever see a maple saplin' moving in a south wind?—It warn't a crooked stick to compar' to her, but her old dad was *awful*. He could just lick anything that said *boo*, in then diggins, out-swar Satan, and was cross as a she *bar* with cubs.

The slap-stick element comes in when Betty gets a ladder and goes up to the second floor to get ready for the dance. The boards were loose, "and, may I die, ef Betsy, without any thin' on yearth on her but one of these *starn cushions*, didn't drop right through the floor, and sot herself, flat into the pan of mush!"⁴³

"Courting in French Hollow" may be mentioned as another story that is typical of these tales of courtship, in plot, language, and imagery—especially imagery drawn from steamboating.⁴⁴

The tall-tale element abounds in the description Old Sugar, the standing candidate, gave of his jealousy. He was speaking to a "vast gathering of Missouri sovereigns" in the campaign of 1844, explaining why he was still a bachelor.

One mornin' I wur a leetle mite late to meetin', and when I got thar, the furst thing I seed war Jake Simins, sittin' close bang up agin Sofy, in the same pew with her daddy. I biled a spell with wrath, and then turned sour; I could taste myself . . . I war so *enormous* mad that the new silk handkercher round my neck lost its color!⁴⁵

⁴³*Ibid.*, pp. 59-64.

⁴⁴*Ibid.*, pp. 142-148.

⁴⁵*Ibid.*, pp. 91-101. "The Standing Candidate; His Excuse for Being a Bachelor."

At a time when the "females" in both English and American novels were fainting on the slightest provocation, the "gals" of the Western stories were quite able to take care of themselves. In "Fun with a 'Bar'" Mollie rushes out to kill the "varmint."⁴⁶ In "Yaller Pledges; or the Fight about Sally Spillman," one of the best of Robb's tales, Sally encourages her lover in the fight by shouting: "Sock your teeth into him, Jess!"⁴⁷

The twenty-three stories in this volume cover a wide number of situations and varied types of themes. Several of them are mere anecdotes, such as those told on Sol Smith and Dan Marble, actors, and those on Millerism and "George Munday, the Hatless Prophet." Two are intended as satires on society, but fail entirely. "The Pre-Emption Right; or Dick Kelsey's Signature to his Land Claim" is the only story without some humorous intention. Despite its conventional hero and villain characters, the story has considerable power and movement. It more nearly resembles the literary short story of the time than any other in the volume.⁴⁸ Almost all the other stories picture the settler mixing with his neighbors at dances, political meetings, or, as has been illustrated, courting. A good example of the "dancin', and drinkin', and eatin' bar steaks, and corn dodger, and huggin' the gals" may be found in the story already mentioned, "Fun with a 'Bar.'"⁴⁹ "Hoss Allen's Apology" and "The Standing Candidate" describe political meetings somewhat like those reported by David Crockett.⁵⁰ Almost all of the stories make free use of dialect at a time when the masters of the short story, Irving, Poe, and Hawthorne, looked askance at it.

(To be continued)

⁴⁶*Ibid.*, pp. 104-112.

⁴⁷*Ibid.*, pp. 132-139.

⁴⁸*Ibid.*, pp. 117-132; also in the *Boonsville Observer* (Boonsville, Missouri) November 11, 1854. This paper had copied it from Neal's *Saturday Gazette*.

⁴⁹Robb, *The Swamp Doctor's Adventures in the Southwest*, pp. 104-112.

⁵⁰*Ibid.*, pp. 70-83 and 91-101, respectively.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF LEAD MINING IN MISSOURI*

BY RUBY JOHNSON SWARTZLOW

FOURTH ARTICLE

PART II. THE AUSTIN PERIOD (1800-1820)

INTRODUCTION

The history of the southeastern Missouri lead mines in the early nineteenth century is dominated by Moses Austin to such a degree that the second part of this study is termed the Austin period rather than the American. It is, however, a period of American settlement throughout.

Louisiana was ceded back to France by Spain in 1800 by the treaty of San Ildefonso, but Upper Louisiana was not actually transferred to France until March 9, 1804. On March 10, 1804, France transferred Upper Louisiana to the United States.¹ The Ste. Genevieve district, one of the five into which the District of Louisiana was divided, embraced all of the territory that is under investigation in this study.²

The early life of Moses Austin was spent in Middletown, Connecticut.³ In 1785, he moved to Virginia, where he engaged in the lead business. In December, 1796, Austin started for Louisiana to investigate the lead deposits there. He reached St. Louis on January 15, 1797.⁴

The following entry is found in Austin's memorandum of his journey under date of January 19th:

The 19 I passed the Missisipi on Ice to St. Genevieve, which is about 2 Miles from the bank of the River, which at this place is about A Mile over. I presented my letter from the Commandant of St. Louis to Mons

*An error was made at the close of the Third Article of this series in indicating with the words "(The End)" that the series was completed. See *Mo. Hist. Rev.* Vol. 29, No. 1, p. 34.

¹"Letter of Amos Stoddard to Mrs. Samuel Benham, St. Louis, June 16, 1804," in *Missouri Historical Society Collections*, Vol. VI, No. 3 (1931), pp. 320-322.

²Stoddard, *Historical Sketches of Louisiana*, pp. 215, 216.

³Barker, Eugene C., *Life of Stephen F. Austin*, p. 3.

⁴*Austin Papers*, edited by Eugene C. Barker, in *Annual Report of American Historical Association*, 1919, Vol. II, Part I, p. 8.

Valle, the Commandant of St. Genevieve, who recevd me with much Politeness, and promisd me all the assistance in his power and on the 21 beeing furnished with a Carry all and Two Horses I left St. Genevieve in Companey with a Mr Jones of Kaskaskia (John Rice Jones) for the Mines of Briton, and on the 23 arrivd at the Place, I found the mines equal to my Expectation in Every respect. the weather turning warm we was obligd to make a quicker return than I wishd however I satisfied myself as to the Object I had in vew, and returned to St. Genevieve, on the 26th. the Mines of Briton, so called in Consequence of there beeing found by a man of that Name, are about 30 Miles from the Town of St Genevieve. there is a good waggon road to the place, and all the Lead that has been made at them is by making a fire over the Ore with large Loggs which Melts some of the Ore, by which means about 2/3 of the Lead is lost. Notwithstanding the Imperfect manner in which they Melt the Ore, Yet at the Mines of Briton last Summer was made 400000 Lead, and from an experiment I made the same quantity of Ore that was made use of, to make the 400 Thousand pounds would have made 1200,000 lb. of Lead, if I was rightly informed as to the quantity of Ore they Took to make a 1000 lb Lead in the Logg fires. the Ore at the Mines of Briton Covers about 40 Acres of Ground and is found with in three feet of the surface of the Earth in great plenty and better quality than any I have ever seen either from the Mines in England or America.

. . . What has made the Town of St. Genevieve is the Lead and Salt that is made near the place, the whole of which is brought to Town for Sale, and from thence Shipt up and Down the River Missisipe as well as Up the Ohio to Cumberland and Kentuckey, and when the Lead Mines are properly worked, and the Salt Springs advantageously managd, St. Genevieve will be a place of as Much Wealth as any on the Missisipe.⁵

Notwithstanding the volume of labor evidenced by the works at Mine à Breton, no inhabitants were there, due to the hostility of the Osage Indians. The miners lived at Ste. Genevieve and went to the mines from August to November, since mining was limited to three or four months of the year. Upon inquiry, Austin was told that the mines still belonged to the royal domain and were subject to grant. On January 26th he applied for a vast tract four leagues square around Mine à Breton.⁶

⁵Austin, Moses, "Memorandum of M. Austin's Journey from the Lead Mines in the County of Wythe in the State of Virginia to the Lead Mines in the Province of Louisiana West of the Mississippi," 1796-1797, in *American Historical Review*, Vol. V, No. 3 (April, 1900), pp. 540, 541.

⁶*American State Papers, Public Lands*, Vol. III, p. 592.

In the year 1798 Austin brought his family from Virginia to Louisiana, where they lived in Ste. Genevieve until 1799, when they moved to Mine à Breton.⁷

At the time of Austin's arrival as a settler in Missouri, it was sparsely populated. Population was confined to the region along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers for the most part. The census report for Upper Louisiana in 1796 was as follows:⁸

| <i>District</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---------------------|--------------|
| New Madrid..... | 499 |
| Ste. Genevieve..... | 1,156 |
| St. Louis..... | 1,522 |
| St. Charles..... | 405 |
| | <hr/> 3,582 |

Austin experienced many difficulties in getting his mining operations under way. Most of these were due to the complex land system and the vagueness of his land grant. As late as 1824 the land claim was unsettled.⁹

THE INFLUENCE OF AUSTIN ON LEAD MINING

By the beginning of the year 1800 Austin was fairly well established on his plot of ground at Mine à Breton. He had put up a saw mill and flour mill, and a furnace and manufactory for shot and sheet lead were in operation. These represented an investment of \$8,000.¹⁰

Austin revolutionized the mining and smelting industry. Prior to his arrival the ore had been dug only in shallow pits, seldom more than ten feet deep. Austin sank the first mining shaft. The smelting of the galena had been done in furnaces

⁷Austin Papers, in *Annual Report of American Historical Association*, 1919, Vol. II, Part I, p. 2.

⁸Houck, L. *The Spanish Regime in Missouri*, Vol. II, pp. 140-143.

⁹The question of the Spanish land claims was one of the most pressing problems with which the American government of the Louisiana Territory had to contend. For a brief explanation of the problem see Swartzlow, Ruby, *The Early History of Lead Mining in Missouri*, (Master's Thesis, University of Missouri, 1933), pp. 114-120.

¹⁰Barker, E. C., *Life of Stephen F. Austin*, pp. 14, 15.

similar to lime kilns. At the bottom a floor was made of large logs; smaller ones were placed around the sides of the furnace. Three to five thousand pounds of mineral were put in after a fire had been lighted under the bottom of the furnace. In this crude manner each miner smelted his own mineral and Austin estimated that about 350 pounds of lead were extracted from each thousand pounds of galena by this method. Austin introduced a new type of furnace so that instead of thirty-five per cent of lead being derived from the ore, it yielded sixty-five per cent.¹¹

The results of smelting in Austin's furnace were so much better than those secured by the use of the old furnaces that by 1802 practically all of the older furnaces were abandoned and the ore from most of the diggings was being brought to Austin's furnace for smelting. The improvements begun and carried out by Austin so developed lead mining that it became more important than merely an adventurous vacation project to be carried on for one or two months of the year.¹²

The transfer of the Louisiana territory to the United States stimulated emigration to Missouri. The population of Upper Louisiana doubled in the six years from 1804-1810, increasing from 10,350 in 1804 to 19,783 in 1810.

The effect of the increase of population was a decided expansion in business. The enterprise of Moses Austin apparently prospered during these years. He conducted a general store at the mines, exchanging manufactured household necessities for lead, peltry, and other produce.

The lead business under Austin's leadership progressed and increased steadily during the first decade of the nineteenth century. There is every reason to believe that Austin made money, as the price of lead was good, and he soon built up a business of considerable magnitude. But the characteristics evidenced in his early business ventures followed him to the West and here, too, he was ready to invest five thousand dollars as soon as he had made one thousand.

¹¹Austin, Moses, *Summary Description of the Lead Mines in Upper Louisiana*, pp. 7, 9, 10. (Typewritten copy in Library of the State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia.)

¹²Austin, *Summary Description of the Lead Mines in Upper Louisiana*, p. 10.

Austin was thought to be well-to-do, but it is probable that his wealth was always speculative. The turnover in his ventures was very slow and most of the time it was very difficult to make collections, especially during the second decade of the nineteenth century. Added to these difficulties was the fact that his debts were chronically pressing and ever-present.

During the first decade of the nineteenth century the town of Herculanum was started. Austin was in favor of developing the site on the Joachim river as a place to be used as a depot for lead instead of Ste. Genevieve. Austin was instrumental in the development of the road from Mine à Breton to the mouth of the Joachim river, the place which later became the town of Herculanum.¹³

The town of Herculanum was duly established and on March 8, 1809, the following notice appeared in the *Missouri Gazette*:

At Herculanum a Shot Manufactory is now erecting by an active and enterprising citizen of our territory; the situation is peculiarly adapted for the purpose, having a natural tower or rather a stupendous rock forming a precipice of about 130 feet: having the lead mines in the neighborhood, and one of the finest harbors for vessels, we presume the proprietor will be enabled to supply the Atlantic States on such terms as will defeat competition.¹⁴

In the fall of 1809, the owner of the shot manufactory, one J. Macklot, placed an advertisement in the *Missouri Gazette* stating that his establishment was ready to manufacture shot.¹⁵ In the spring of 1810, another shot manufactory was erected at Herculanum by Moses Austin.¹⁶

It was not long after this that Herculanum began to surpass Ste. Genevieve in importance as a depot for lead. The shot manufactories were an incentive to miners to bring their lead to Herculanum and the distance of transportation from the mines in Washington county to Herculanum was less than to Ste. Genevieve.¹⁷

¹³*Life and Papers of Frederick Bates*, edited by Thomas M. Marshall, Vol. I, p. 273.

¹⁴*Missouri Gazette*, March 8, 1809.

¹⁵*Missouri Gazette*, November 16, 1809.

¹⁶*Ibid.*, March 8, 1810.

¹⁷*American State Papers, Public Lands*, Vol. III, p. 609.

These early years of the nineteenth century were years of growth and expansion in population as well as in business. There were establishments along main roads, seldom more than ten miles apart and frequently much nearer. Throughout the mining region there were scattered farms.¹⁸ By the end of the first decade of the nineteenth century the Ste. Genevieve district had a population of 4,620, almost 2,000 more than in 1804.¹⁹

During the decade 1810 to 1820 the business depression resulting from the War of 1812 and the panic of 1819 retarded the lead business. Delayed collections, fluctuation in prices of lead, and the difficulties of transportation proved especially embarrassing to Austin and his family.

Added to these difficulties, Austin became involved in an attempt to exploit the mines with slaves leased from Colonel Anthony Butler of Kentucky. It was just another instance of Austin investing far in excess of his real ability. The money needed to make the payments on these slaves was a serious drain on Austin's resources. In fact, Austin's need for money became almost desperate.²⁰

From 1815 to 1820 Austin put up a valiant but losing fight to save his property. In the summer of 1820 the Mine à Breton estate was taken over by his creditors at St. Louis where he had become involved in the Bank of St. Louis.

As soon as Austin found that he was going to lose all his property in Missouri he began to make arrangements to go to Texas.²¹ Austin returned to Missouri in 1821 upon learning of the failure of the Bank of St. Louis. He suffered privation and exposure on the way back to Missouri from Texas and became seriously ill in the early part of June while attempting to finish up his business in the mine country and around Herculaneum. He died on June 10, 1821.²²

(To be continued)

¹⁸*Missouri Gazette*, March 7, 1811.

¹⁹*Life and Papers of Frederick Bates*, Vol. II, p. 168.

²⁰*Austin Papers*, in *Annual Report of American Historical Association*, 1919, Vol. II, Part I, pp. 243-244.

²¹*Austin Papers*, in *Annual Report of American Historical Association*, 1919, Vol. II, Part I, p. 3.

²²*Ibid.*, Vol. II, Part I, pp. 3-4, 388, 389.

MISSOURIANA

"Peg-leg" Shannon
The Hound Dog Song
Territorial Judges of Missouri
Topics in Missouri History
Do You Know, Or Don't You?
Advertisements in the Pioneer Press

"PEG-LEG" SHANNON

It is a singular fact about the epoch-making Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-1806, that more of its members are buried in the State of Missouri than in any other in the Union. Of the fifteen about which anything is known in this respect, four and probably five found a last resting place in Missouri. One of these is George Shannon, who was called in his later years by the sobriquet "Peg-leg," and who rounded out a varied and adventurous career as a lawyer in this State where began and ended one of the greatest exploring expeditions of modern times.

Shannon was born in Pennsylvania, of Protestant Irish descent. Some writers give the date of his birth as 1785, but the preponderance of opinion seems to favor the date 1787. The father had fought in the American revolution, and when he died in 1803 in St. Clair county, Ohio, he left a widow and nine children. Of these, George Shannon was the eldest. Several of the children, besides George, became prominent; Wilson, the youngest, was a lawyer and became governor of Ohio, an Ohio congressman, minister to Mexico, and territorial governor of Kansas; Thomas, a prominent merchant, was elected to Congress from Ohio; and James, a noted lawyer, practiced for many years at Lexington, Kentucky.

When George Shannon was about 14 years old, he was sent to Pennsylvania to his mother's people to attend school. A few years later, it is said, he met Captain Meriwether Lewis, then on his way to St. Louis to begin his expedition, and ran away to join the explorers. The date of Shannon's

enlistment as a private with Lewis and Clark is given as October 19, 1803, in the official records of the expedition. At the time, he was approximately sixteen years old, a handsome, graceful boy with blue eyes, black hair and a smooth face.

Although Shannon's rank was no higher than that of a private throughout the entire progress of the expedition, he often performed duties of trust and responsibility, and it is said of him that he was "perhaps the one man on the expedition whom either of the Captains would have been most likely to meet at home on terms of social equality." As for every other member of the expedition, the events that took place during the next few years constitute the most important period in Shannon's life.

Shannon served throughout the entire expedition, from the time it started up the Missouri river on May 14, 1804, until it had crossed the continental divide, reached the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of the Columbia river, and returned to St. Louis on September 23, 1806. He was a member of the first squad of the expedition, under Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor, was appointed by the commanders to discharge Pryor's duties when the sergeant was indisposed, and ate in Pryor's mess.

The first mention of Shannon as a hunter for the expedition is on May 27, 1804, when he killed a deer in the vicinity of the Gasconade river in Missouri. It was an occupation in which he was not particularly adept at first, for on August 28, William Clark recorded in his journal that Shannon was not "a first rate Hunter." Yet at the very time Clark wrote this about Shannon, the boy was demonstrating his resourcefulness. Being sent to look for some stray horses on August 26, Shannon found them, but missed the main party of the expedition. Thinking that the expedition was ahead, he pushed on rapidly up the river. When the party finally caught up with him, Shannon had been absent sixteen days and was nearly starved to death because he was out of lead shot. For twelve days he had nothing to eat but grapes and a rabbit which he had shot with a hard stick in place of a lead ball. One other time, while out hunting on Wisdom

river far up in the mountains, Shannon became separated from the party and was lost for several days because the expedition changed its course, but he eventually found his way back to the party. His hunting ability must have improved rapidly, for both during the time the expedition was traveling, and during the winter spent on the Columbia river in Oregon, Shannon was one of the men sent out regularly to hunt the game on which the expedition mainly subsisted.

Besides hunting, Shannon was also called on to perform other important duties. On October 13, 1804, he was a member of a court martial which found John Newman guilty of "expressions of a highly criminal and mutinous nature," and set his punishment at seventy-five lashes on the bare back and expulsion from the permanent party of the expedition. He was chosen on several occasions to make trips to interview Indian tribes, served on small exploring parties, helped make salt while the party was encamped near the Pacific Ocean, and sometimes acted as special messenger.

On a part of the return trip of the expedition, the party was broken into two groups for the purpose of exploring different routes on the tributaries and upper stretches of the Missouri river. Shannon accompanied the party led by William Clark. While proceeding home, Captain Clark detailed Shannon and Richard Windsor, under the command of Sergeant Pryor, to take some horses to the camp of the Mandan Indians. The small detail had scarcely gotten under way, when hostile Indians ran off with the horses. In this emergency, Shannon shot a buffalo, made a canoe of the skin, and the men were able to rejoin Clark's party in a few days. One night before their return, a ravenous wolf invaded the camp of the three men, and bit Sergeant Pryor while he was asleep, and then attacked Windsor. It was Shannon who finally managed to shoot the wolf.

Only twice during the expedition does Shannon appear to have been negligent. Once he lost a tomahawk and Clark made him return to look for it. Another time, his oversight was more serious for he left his horn and pouch with powder, balls and his knife, at a stopping place. Despite the almost unendurable hardships of the party at times during the

expedition, Shannon seems to have enjoyed perfect health. Only once, and then only five days from the end of the expedition, is there a complaint recorded about him; and then it was only the hot sun which beat down on the open boats and burned his face and eyes.

For all these hardships and faithful services, Shannon received the regular private's pay, five dollars a month. His service with the expedition did not end until October 10, 1806, and for the thirty-five months and twenty-one days he had served, he received a total of \$178.50 as his pay. Later, he and the rest of the members received land grants from Congress.

The following year, 1807, Shannon was one of the party under Nathaniel Pryor, the sergeant of the Lewis and Clark expedition but by then an ensign in the army, which undertook the job of escorting Shahaka, a Mandan Indian chief, on the return to his village. Near the site of Bismarck, North Dakota, the party was attacked by the Arikara Indians, and after a bloody fight, Pryor had to abandon the expedition and return to St. Louis. Shannon received a leg wound in this battle and was unable to receive proper surgical attention until the party had retraced their course down the river to St. Charles, where his leg was amputated near the knee. He had to spend eighteen months in the army hospital at Fort Bellefontaine, and used a wooden peg the rest of his life. This fact earned for him the nickname of "Peg-leg."

So far, life had just begun for Shannon, yet already he had experienced enough to fill an entire lifetime. Although Meriwether Lewis offered no special remarks about Shannon in his official report on the members of the expedition, Shannon's ability and value received recognition in May, 1810, when William Clark sent him to Philadelphia to help Nicholas Biddle prepare the manuscript for a publication of the journals of the expedition. Shannon was the only member of the expedition who helped at first-hand with the publication of these records, and it appears that he materially assisted the editor in interpreting the note-books and in giving personal recollections of the expedition. At the same time, in Phila-

delphia, Shannon was studying law, and he remained with Biddle until the work on the journals was finished on July 8, 1811.

Soon after helping Biddle, Shannon was admitted to the bar, but whether it was in Pennsylvania or in Kentucky, where he shortly went to practice, is not clear. It is claimed that Shannon was a graduate of Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky, and served for three years as circuit judge in that city. In 1813 he married Ruth Snowden Price at Lexington.

The date of Shannon's removal to Missouri is given as 1828, but there is dispute as to whether he first came to Hannibal or to St. Louis. At any rate, he soon moved to St. Charles, where he apparently made his home thereafter. He served as United States district attorney for Missouri, and made a considerable reputation as a criminal lawyer. He was only forty-nine years old, and had but recently been elected to the Missouri General Assembly when he died suddenly at Palmyra, Missouri, where he is supposed to have gone to defend a man indicted for murder.

Contemporary newspapers tell the story of his death. He reached Palmyra on August 23, 1836, in feeble and declining health, and immediately went to his room to get medical aid. "He sustained his illness with a degree of moral courage and composure that has seldom been equalled," reported the *Palmyra Journal*. "On the morning of Tuesday the 30th, he sunk into the arms of death without the slightest emotion."

Though Shannon was dead and buried before the members of his family even knew he was ill, he had many friends in Palmyra to attend him in his final moments. He had been a prominent Mason, and was buried with Masonic ceremony in a cemetery near Massey's Mill, "about one mile north of Palmyra." The local paper spoke of his high talents and integrity of character, and the members of the bar of Palmyra passed resolutions in his memory, in which he was referred to as an "eminent jurist." Resolutions were also passed by members of the bar at St. Charles, in which Shannon

was called the "senior member of our bar." Both at Palmyra and St. Charles, the lawyers wore crape on their left arms for thirty days in his memory.

It was intended to remove Judge Shannon's body to St. Charles, but as his wife died about the same time, and the family was broken up soon after, this was never accomplished, and it is said that "all traces of the grave have since been lost."

In his later years, Judge Shannon is said to have become quite fond of liquor, and several anecdotes are told about him in this connection. One night in a country tavern, the ticking of a clock disturbed him, and when it wouldn't stop at his command, he got a pistol from his saddle-bags and fired a ball through it. The next morning, finding what he had done, he promptly paid the landlord for the damage. Another time, in Jefferson City, becoming angry at a state senator, Shannon got the legislator helplessly drunk, put him in a skiff and turned it loose on the Missouri river, the unconscious senator not being rescued until he had floated fifteen miles and grounded on a sand bar. On another occasion in Jefferson City, Shannon and a friend agreed to do whatever the other did, or treat the crowd as a penalty. Shannon immediately took off his wooden leg and threw it into the fire, and his opponent had to pay for the treat.

Although there are probably five members of the Lewis and Clark expedition buried in Missouri, the exact location of only one of the graves, that of the leader, William Clark, is definitely known. Clark is buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery at St. Louis. Of the other four, only the location of the neglected grave of Shannon near Palmyra can be reasonably approximated. Clark's last resting place in approximately marked, and it would be only fitting that some kind of monument or memorial be erected in the vicinity of Shannon's burial place.

Of the others buried in Missouri, Sergeant John Ordway may be resting in the vicinity of New Madrid, near where he settled. John Colter, who discovered what is now Yellowstone Park, is probably in a grave near the village of Dundee in Franklin county. York, the Negro slave of Clark, is believed to be buried somewhere in Missouri.

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THE HOUND DOG SONG

When Champ Clark of Missouri was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the presidency in 1912, a famous song was adapted for use in his campaign. This was the "Hound Dog Song," also known as "They Got to Quit Kickin' My Dawg Aroun'." To the veteran readers of the *Review*, the reprinting of this ballad will doubtless recall many memories and the newer reader will also probably find it not without interest.

Wunst me 'n' Lem Briggs 'n' ol' Bill Brown
Tuk a load of cawn to town
An' ol' Jim dawg, the onry cuss,
He jes' nachelly follored us.

Chorus.

Every time I come to town
The boys keep kickin' my dawg aroun'.
Makes no difference if he is a houn',
They got to quit kickin' my dawg aroun'.

As we driv' past Sam Johnson's store
Passel o' yawps kem out th' door;
When Jim he stops to smell a box,
They shied at him a bunch of rocks.

They tied a tin can to his tail
An' run him apast the county jail,
'N' that plum nachelly made me sore—
'N' Lem he cussed 'n' Bill he swore.

Me 'n' Lem Briggs n' ol' Bill Brown
We lost no time in a jumpin' down,
An' we wiped them ducks up on the ground
Fer kickin' my ol' dawg aroun'.

Folks say a dawg kain't hold no grudge
But wunst when I got too much budge,
Them town ducks tried to do me up,
But they didn't count on ol' Jim pup.

Jim seed his duty thar an' then,
An' he lit into them gentlemen,
An' he shore mussed up the courthouse square
With rags 'n' meat 'n' hide 'n' hair.¹

TERRITORIAL JUDGES OF MISSOURI

For well over a hundred years, the names of all the judges who at first made and later administered the laws of Missouri in its territorial days have remained largely unknown. The judicial services of a few have been on record, it is true, but such data has usually been supplementary to other events of their careers rather than because of tenure on the territorial bench. Though his history of Missouri up to 1820 is standard, Louis Houck did not include a complete list of the territorial judges in his comprehensive work, and as far as is known, there has never been such a list printed in other historical records of this State.

This lack of adequate information about an important phase of Missouri's history became quite evident recently when a request was received by the State Historical Society asking for this data. After a careful search of Missouri sources revealed the deficiency existing here, an inquiry was directed to the Department of State at Washington, D. C., with the result that E. Wilder Spaulding, Assistant Chief of the Division of Research and Publications, was able to furnish a list of the territorial judges of Missouri and the dates of their commissions.

Because of its importance, this information is given below with a few necessary notes. In cases where the date

¹Marsh, Susan L., and Vannest, Charles G., *Missouri Anthology*, pp. 82-83.

of expiration of a judge's service is uncertain, and no definite information to the contrary was available, the year in which his successor was appointed is given as the year ending his service.

DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

It should be remembered that the territory now included within the State of Missouri existed under varying names during its territorial period. The United States took over upper Louisiana in 1804, and by an act of Congress of March 26, 1804, the present Missouri was included in the District of Louisiana, which was attached to the Territory of Indiana. The judges of the Territory of Indiana during the brief period that the District of Louisiana was attached thereto were:

Thomas Terry Davis.
Henry Vanderburgh (or Vander Burgh).
John Griffin.

TERRITORY OF LOUISIANA

By an act of Congress on March 3, 1805, the District of Louisiana was granted a separate territorial government, independent of the Territory of Indiana, and was named the Territory of Louisiana. The act provided for the appointment by the president of three judges, for a term of four years. Those who served as judges of the Territory of Louisiana were:

Return Jonathan Meigs, Jr., 1805-1807; first commission, March 11, 1805; second commission, January 30, 1806.

*John B. C. Lucas, 1805-1812; first commission, March 12, 1805; second commission, January 31, 1806; third commission, March 21, 1810.

Rufus Easton, 1805-1806; commission, March 13, 1805.

Otho (or Otto) Shrader, 1806-1812; first commission, April 17, 1806; second commission, March 21, 1810.

John Coburn, 1807-1812; first commission, April 2, 1807; second commission, November 18, 1807; third commission, November 26, 1811.

*Silas Bent, 1812; first commission, February 18, 1812.

*William Sprigg, 1812; commission, May 11, 1812.

*Also served as judge of the Territory of Missouri.

TERRITORY OF MISSOURI

By an act of Congress on June 4, 1812, the Territory of Louisiana became the Territory of Missouri. The judges then in office continued to serve in the same capacity in the newly named territory. By another law, approved January 27, 1814, Congress provided for an additional judge for the Territory of Missouri who was to have jurisdiction in "the late district of Arkansas," increasing the number of judges from three to four. Judges who served under the Territory of Missouri were:

John B. C. Lucas, 1812-1820; first commission, June 1, 1814; second commission, October 3, 1814; third commission, November 30, 1818.

William Sprigg, 1812-1814; commission, May 11, 1812 (for Territory of Louisiana).

Silas Bent, 1812-1820; first commission, February 18, 1812 (for Territory of Louisiana); second commission, January 21, 1817 (for Territory of Missouri).

†George Bullit, 1814-1820 (?); first commission, February 9, 1814; second commission, February 19, 1818.

†Alexander Stuart, 1814-1820 (?); first commission, February 9, 1814; second commission, March 6, 1818.

The formation of a State government in Missouri in 1820 put an end to the duties of the territorial judges as such, and the first supreme court of the State was appointed in that year by Governor Alexander McNair. At least two territorial judges, William Sprigg and Silas Bent, were nominated for the State supreme court, but were rejected. The first State supreme court as finally constituted was composed of Mathias McGirk, John D. Cook, and John Rice Jones.

†It is evident that one of these men, Bullit or Stuart, was appointed judge for the "late district of Arkansas," but which one served in that capacity is not clear. Since the Territory of Arkansas was created in 1819 and a judiciary similar to that of the Territory of Missouri was provided for, the date of expiration of the services of Bullit and Stuart is uncertain and each has therefore been given as 1820, the date Missouri became a State, and questioned.

TOPICS IN MISSOURI HISTORY

A list of reference on the Mexican War is given this month in the series of "Topics in Missouri History." No attempt has been made to present an exhaustive bibliography on the subject, but the list includes books and articles which it is thought will be most helpful to the general reader. In compiling such a list of references, emphasis seems naturally to fall upon Doniphan's Expedition to Mexico, since, for Missourians, this was perhaps the most memorable campaign of the War. The references cited as *Review* indicate the *Missouri Historical Review*, published by the State Historical Society of Missouri.

THE MEXICAN WAR

- Connelley, William E., *Doniphan's Expedition and the Conquest of New Mexico and California. Includes a Reprint of the Work of Col. John T. Hughes* (1907).
- Edwards, Frank S., *A Campaign in New Mexico with Colonel Doniphan* (1847).
- General Scott and His Staff; Comprising Memoirs of Generals Scott, Twiggs, Smith, Quitman, Shields, Pillow, Lane, Cadwalader, Patterson and Pierce; Colonels Childs, Riley, Harney, and Buller, and Other Distinguished Officers Attached to General Scott's Army; Together with Notices of General Kearny, Colonel Doniphan, Colonel Fremont, and Other Officers Distinguished in the Conquest of California and New Mexico* (1849).
- Grissom, Daniel M., "Mexican War," in *Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri*, edited by Howard L. Conard (1901), Vol. IV, pp. 367-369.
- Hobbs, James, *Wild Life in the Far West: Personal Adventures of a Border Mountain Man; Comprising Hunting and Trapping Adventures with Kit Carson and Others; Life Among the Apaches, Services Under Doniphan, Desperate Combats with Apaches . . .* (1872). (Capt. Hobbs was guide and interpreter for Doniphan.)
- Magoffin, Mrs. Susan (Shelby), *Down the Santa Fe Trail and Into Mexico; the Diary of Susan Shelby Magoffin, 1846-1847*, edited by Stella M. Drumm (1926).
- Mansfield, Edward D., *The Mexican War; A History of Its Origin and a Detailed Account of the Victories Which Terminated in the Surrender of the Capital* (1850).
- Mexican War and Its Heroes; Being a Complete History of the Mexican War, Embracing All the Operations Under Generals Taylor and Scott, With a Biography of the Officers* (1850).

- Owen, Charles Hunter, *The Justice of the Mexican War; a Review of the Causes and Results of the War, With a View to Distinguishing Evidence from Opinion and Inference* (1908).
- Porter, Valentine M., "A History of Battery 'A' of St. Louis: With an Account of the Early Artillery Companies from Which It Is Descended," in *Missouri Historical Society Collections*, Vol. II, No. 4, Mar., 1905, pp. 1-47.
- Richardson, William H., "William H. Richardson's Journal of Doniphan's Expedition to Mexico," edited by Wm. B. McGroarty, *Review*, XXII, Jan., 1928, pp. 193-236; Apr., 1928, pp. 331-360; July, 1928, pp. 511-542.
- Robinson, Jacob S., *A Journal of the Santa Fe Expedition Under Colonel Doniphan*, by Jacob S. Robinson. Reprinted with an historical introduction and notes by Carl L. Cannon, from the edition of 1848 (1932).
- Twitchell, Ralph E., *The History of the Military Occupation of the Territory of New Mexico, from 1846 to 1851* (1909).
- Wislizenus, Frederick Adolphus, *Memoir of a Tour to Northern Mexico, Connected with Col. Doniphan's Expedition, in 1846 and 1847* (1848).

DO YOU KNOW, OR DON'T YOU?

That two of the ten most outstanding persons in the development of American education, selected by a commission of the National Educational Association, were adopted Missourians,—James M. Greenwood, of Kansas City, and William Torrey Harris, of St. Louis.

That the first hospital founded west of the Mississippi river was established in St. Louis in 1828,—the "Sisters of Charity Hospital," later called the "Mullanphy Hospital."

That Henry Shurlds, cashier for 15 years of the grand old "Bank of the State of Missouri," which is sometimes called the financial "Gibraltar of the West," is considered one of the greatest bankers the Middle West has ever produced.

That Champ Clark's long career as a congressman began when by a vote of 39 for Clark to 28 for Richard H. Norton, Clark was nominated by a district convention held in St. Charles in August, 1892. The St. Charles convention was called by the Democratic State Committee as a result of the previous convention, held in Montgomery City in July, having been deadlocked over contesting delegations.

That James Milton Turner, a native of Missouri, and the son of slave parents was one of the most outstanding negro leaders of the United States. His life and work merit his rank with Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington. As a teacher he commenced and furthered negro education in Missouri after the Civil war, as a politician he served as minister resident and consul general in Liberia, and as a lawyer he successfully represented the claims of freedmen of the Cherokee Nation.

That Moses Austin during his twenty-four years residence in Missouri (1797-1821) probably added more to the wealth of Missouri than any other man of his day excepting possibly several of the largest fur traders in St. Louis. He revolutionized the lead mining and smelting business, raising the lead recovery from the ore from 35% to 65%. He erected a saw mill and a flour mill, built roads and bridges, constructed a furnace and manufactory for shot and sheet lead. He died practically a bankrupt. His equally industrious and even more famous son, Stephen F. Austin, "The Father of Texas," died in poverty on the puncheon floor of a log cabin.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE PIONEER PRESS

GONE UP SALT RIVER¹

BUT the business of my Carpenter Shop, on Main street, south side of Center, will be conducted as heretofore, by Messrs. Geo. J. Parker and Hudson Martin. Sash and Doors made to order as cheap as ever. Also, Patent Roofing, and all kinds of carpenter work.

JOHN MORRIS.

From the *Tri-Weekly Messenger*, Hannibal, January 4, 1853.

¹The advertiser here has made use of a well-known expression which alludes to the defeat of a politician or a political party. To say that a man had "gone up Salt River" was the equivalent of saying that he had been defeated for public office. The first use of the phrase in this sense is claimed to have been in 1833, and this advertisement, at any rate, gives evidence that the expression was common in northeast Missouri twenty years later. The origin of the phrase is sometimes credited to Kentucky, where there is a Salt River, but many Missourians are confident that it had its beginning in connection with the Salt River of northeast Missouri.

STAGE LINE

From Springfield to Jefferson City, via Bolivar, Warsaw
and Versailles.

The Proprietor of this line respectfully announces to the travelling public that his new stages are complete and now running on the line. If comfortable stages, superior horses, and careful and experienced drivers, and an eye to the comfort of passengers, and a positive certainty that they will have no difficulty in getting through will ensure the patronage of the public, the proprietor thinks he may expect a share.

This line connects with Hogan's line, running to Van Buren in Arkansas.

Dec. 31-33tf

G. R. SMITH.

From the *Springfield Advertiser*, Springfield, December 31, 1844.

SPRING RIVER ACADEMY

The Board of Trustees of the Spring River Academy, are happy to announce to the public that this institution is now in successful operation. It is situated in Lawrence county, Mo., on the waters of Spring river, in a section of the country, fertile and prosperous, and as healthy as any part of the State.

The buildings lately erected, are commodious and comfortable, and sufficient for the reception of more than one hundred students.

The Academy is free from any pecuniary embarrassments, and in a flourishing condition.—From the arrangements which the Board of Trustees have made to procure a library and apparatus (which will soon be received,) they feel confident that superior facilities will be afforded for the acquisition of knowledge by the students.

The Rev. James B. Logan is engaged as principal teacher for the second session, commencing on the first Monday in May, and from his qualifications and experience as a teacher, general satisfaction on the part of patrons of the Academy may be expected. Whenever the interest of the institution require other teachers and professors, they will be obtained.

A country of plenty, a salubrious climate, arrangements for boarding the students at low prices and a well conducted and permanent literary institution, it is hoped by the Board of Trustees, will induce the public to sustain and patronize this outpost of science in the southwest.

The high character of the community who surround this institution, for correct deportment and morality, will form an additional recommendation of this Academy to the parents and guardians of the youth of this country.

Boarding will be furnished in private families in the vicinity, including washing, candles, &c., at the following rates, viz:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Young ladies and gentlemen, per week..... | \$1.00 |
| Children.....do..... | .75 |

Tuition for the second session.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Preparatory department..... | \$4.50 |
| Higher branches..... | 7.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Samuel Were | Thomas Kerr |
| H. T. McCune | H. H. Ritchey |
| Wm. Parrish | Josiah Boyd |
| A. A. Young, Board of Trustees | |

May 24, 1845.

From the *Springfield Advertiser*, Springfield, May 24, 1845.

ST. JOSEPH SEMINARY
for young ladies

THE above institution is now open for the reception of pupils who are desirous of pursuing a course of study, introductory to a more extensive series.

N. B. Parents and Guardians who are intending to enter their children for the present term, are respectfully solicited to make application as early as possible, as it is desirable for the success of this institution to form and regulate the classes as soon as practicable.

The terms will be regulated according to the course of studies pursued, which may be known by application at the Seminary, or at the residence of Mrs. Landis.

Hours of business from 12 till 2; or from 6 till sunset.

From *The Gazette*, St. Joseph, May 9, 1845.

MASONIC HALL LOTTERY

AUTHORIZED by the General Assembly of Missouri, for the purpose of raising funds to build [a] Grand Lodge in the city of St. Louis. Security given for the payment of the Prizes.

THIS DAY

at 5 o'clock p. m.

CAPITAL PRIZE: \$10,000

CLASS NO. 52

To be drawn at the Manager's Office, on Main St., between Olive and Pine.

THIS DAY, APRIL 28th, 1842

* * * * *

32,396 Prizes, amounting to \$113,525.

Tickets only \$2—Halves \$1—Quarters 50 cts.

Packages or single tickets for sale at the Manager's office, Main st. between Olive and Pine.

G. G. PRESBURY, Jr., Manager.

From the *Native American Bulletin*, St. Louis, April 28, 1842.

Apple Trees,
APPLE TREES! !

Having established a permanent APPLE NURSERY, four miles south east of Springfield, Mo., I have a very large stock of SEEDLINGS for grafting on, and have now on hand about 50,000 GRAFTED TREES, comprising more than NINETY varieties of popular kinds, and will make yearly additions of kinds and quality. PRICE, Ten cents, with a deduction of two cents to all who pay cash in hand.

Trees may be removed at any time between the fall of the leaf and the opening of the bud, and can be packed up so as to go any distance.

July, 1844.

WILLIAM H. ANDERSON.

From the *Springfield Advertiser*, Springfield, July 16, 1844.

LIBERTY RACES

THE LIBERTY JOCKY CLUB RACES will commence on May 19th, 1846, over the Liberty course, and continue five days.

First Day.—A sweep stake, mile heats; \$50 entrance; three entries, and closed.

At 3 P. M. a match race between a mule and poney.

Second Day.—A sweep stake, mile heats; \$50 entrance, three entries and closed.

Third Day.—The great poney colt race; \$50 entrance, nine entries, and closed.

Fourth Day.—A sweepstake, mile heats; \$10 entrance, free for all ages, to name the evening previous to the race.

Fifth Day.—Two mile heats, purse 25 dollars, given by the proprietor with 20 dollars entrance to be added to the purse.

From the great number of horses in training, rare sport is anticipated.

SAMUEL WYMORE,
Proprietor.

Liberty, Clay co., April 4, 1846.

From the *Weekly Tribune*, Liberty, April 4, 1846.

HISTORICAL NOTES AND COMMENTS

IN MEMORIAM

R. B. OLIVER

Dean of the bar of southeast Missouri and outstanding public servant and private citizen, Senator R. B. Oliver represented in lineage and work the best American traditions and attainments. As president of the Cape Girardeau Historical Society, as a historical writer, and as a friend of local historians he labored to preserve and make known the records. He was concerned with the work and welfare of the State Historical Society. He left his impress on the laws of the State, serving in both houses of the General Assembly and being the author of important legislation. His association with the University of Missouri as a student resulted in scholastic honors; as a legislator, in the first State appropriation for a school building on the campus; and as a curator, in the selection of the great educator, Dr. Richard Henry Jesse, as its president. The State Teachers College in Cape Girardeau benefitted from his untiring support, the swamp lands of southeast Missouri became Missouri's "Valley of the Nile" through the drainage laws drafted by him, and counties were relieved of oppressive obligations by his adjustment of bonded railroad debts. An untiring worker, he had leisure to devote to family and friends, to community, state and nation. Of unimpeachable integrity, fearless courage, and exceptional intelligence, Senator R. B. Oliver ranks with our most outstanding native sons.

IN MEMORIAM

CORNELIUS ROACH

Few Missourians in public or private life during the first quarter of the twentieth century were more widely known, respected, and beloved than the Honorable Cornelius Roach. It is doubtful if any other man in the State knew our state and local government so well as he. From the time of his

selection as secretary of the Missouri Senate in 1893 to that of his retirement as chairman of the State tax commission in 1919, he was intimately associated with politicians and the actual machinery of government.

As a vice-president of the State Historical Society of Missouri he gave without measure of his time and influence to forward its work. No one realized better than he the necessity of preserving and publishing our historical records, if Missouri was ever to take her proper rank in the nation. His practical mind saw the practical as well as spiritual values in historical accuracy, based on the records. He believed the facts must be available to all.

Our last conversation was in Kansas City in November, 1933. His health was failing, his disappointments had grown, and the outlook to him was grey with the lights and shadows intermingled in the background. Yet, he retained a firm hope for his state and nation, a hope mounting almost to certitude. That hope he told me was founded entirely on the character of our people. A wise practical citizen, with appreciation of spiritual imponderables, with abiding love for his fellowman, and with unselfish devotion to his country, was Honorable Cornelius Roach.

213 NEW MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

JUNE-NOVEMBER, 1934

During the six months from June to November, inclusive of this year, 213 applications for membership were received by the Society. This is an average of thirty-five applications a month and compares with the previous high average of thirty applications a month for the first five months of this year. The Society now has the largest state historical society membership in America.

The 213 new members are:

- Abesville Consolidated High School
Galea
Adams, Jane, Kansas City
Akin, Thomas R., St. Louis
Algeo, June, Lebanon
Andrews, Mrs. Clarice B., Fredericktown
Aslin, Neil C., Canalou
Atherton, Lewis E., Lexington
Ball, Dean H., Philadelphia, Mo.
Banks, Erma Lee, Philadelphia, Mo.
Banks, Mrs. Jamie R., Philadelphia, Mo.
Bayse, Otto, Kansas City
Becker, Harry Seaman, Kirksville,
Bellemere, Fred, Kansas City
Beery, James N., Kansas City
Bernard, Paul M., Potosi
Biggers, Barbara, Palmyra
Boehmer, Florence E., Nevada
Boswell, Wm. Norris, Columbia
Bowles, Elma, Palmyra
Braden, Fern, Mexico
Bradley, C. E., Kansas City
Bradshaw, Mrs. Laura, LaGrange
Branam, Jessie H., Trenton
Briggs, Harold E., Canton
Brown, Nat S., St. Louis
Bullock, F. E., Forest City
Bynum, Ruth E., Ironton
Calvert, Clifford, Shelbyville
Cameron, E. T., Hannibal
Carnegie Library, Aurora
Carpenter, W. W., Columbia
Caulk, J. P., Oakwood
Chilton, Daisy, Ellington
Cole, Charles H., Columbia
Collins, Mrs. G. H., Hannibal
Cooper, Ruby, Maywood
Couch, Winifred, Hunnewell
Curlee, Francis M., St. Louis
Davis, R. H., Joplin
Dickmann Bernard F., St. Louis
Dinwiddie, Ellen, Palmyra
Doane, D. Howard, St. Louis
Douglass, T. G., Kennett
Dunham, N. Lee, Maywood
Dunnegan, T. H. B., Bolivar
Eagan, Edgar M., Jefferson City
Edmonds, Virgil V., Iowa City
Edwards, Benjamin F., St. Louis
Elliff, J. D., Columbia
Emig, Arthur S., Columbia
Feaster, Lynn, Philadelphia, Mo.
Ferris, Mrs. Mary E., St. Louis
Foster, Lauise, Washington, D. C.
Fox, C. T., Hannibal
Frederick, Myrtle, Philadelphia, Mo.
Fry, Carroll, Palmyra
Gaddis, Merrill E., Fayette
Garnett, R. H., Ironton
Gerling, Henry J., St. Louis
Gerst, Mrs. Florence, Taylor
Goodwin, Cliff B., Marshall
Gray, Chester H., Washington, D. C.
Gray, Fred J., Irwin
Grimes, Loyd E., Crane
Guenther, William H., Lexington
Hammons, Edgar G., Poplar Bluff
Hancock, Manlius T., Monte Vista, Colorado
Hannibal-LaGrange College, Hannibal
Hansbrough, Dorothy, Palmyra
Harrell, R. E., Buffalo
Harris, Helen, Palmyra
Hawley, Frederick, W., Parkville
Haydon, Mabel, Palmyra
Haynes, E. S., Columbia
Helm, Maud, New Haven
Henry County Library, Clinton
Henry, Kathryn, Columbia
Herget, John F., Liberty
Hoenes, Mrs. Ann J., Palmyra
Holloway, Richard B., Kansas City
Holmes, Daisey, Nelsonville
Holzwarth, Mrs. Caroline P., Grand Lake, Colorado

- Humphrey, B. C., Philadelphia, Mo.
 Ihrig, Mrs. E. E., Hannibal
 Ike, Carl B., West Plains
 Ingram, Annie, Bowling Green
 Inman, Mildred, Palmyra
 Irion, F. C., Kansas City
 Irion, Theo. W. H., Columbia
 Irwin, Ray W., New York City
 Jackson, Dorothy, Monroe City
 Jackson, N. D., Independence
 James, Will, Springfield
 Jewett Norris Library, Trenton
 Johnson, Pauline, Palmyra
 Johnson, Roy, Independence
 Jurden, Mrs. Ralph L. Kansas City
 Keller, Mrs. Ruth, Maywood
 Kennen, Kenneth G., Laddonia
 Keyes, Edgar, St. Louis
 Kiefner, Charles E., Perryville
 King, Roy, Columbia
 Kizer, Elizabeth, Palmyra
 Kizer, Margaret, Palmyra
 Kizer, Marion, Palmyra
 Kretzmann, P. E., St. Louis
 Land, Frank S., Kansas City
 Langston, Delia, LaRussell
 Langworthy, H. M., Kansas City
 Langworthy, Irene, Salem
 Larabee, Mrs. C. W., Kansas City
 Leath, Sam, Eureka Springs, Arkansas
 Lewis, Bransford, St. Louis
 Levy, Mrs. Herman, Monroe City
 Lilly, Linus A., St. Louis
 Lindhorst, Will, St. Louis
 Lowrey, E. C., Humansville
 Luedde, W. H., St. Louis
 Lund, Robert L., St. Louis
 McAuliffe, Joseph J., St. Louis
 McClintock, Edna, Monroe City
 McClure, Meade L., Kansas City
 McCormick, John Steele, Bourbon
 McCown, Pearle, Columbia
 McGee, Lelia, Monroe City
 McKelvey, S. Willis, Kansas City
 McLaughlin, Mrs. Jennie, Kansas City
 Maddox, Russell, Palmyra
 Marr, P. M., Milan
 Martin, Wm. McC., St. Louis
 Matson, John S., Louisiana
 Maxwell, J. S., Warrensburg
 Melcher, George, Kansas City
 Middlebush, Frederick A., Columbia
 Millsap, Marvin M., Kansas City
 Morris, Mrs. Charles M., St. Louis
 Morton, Marjorie, Palmyra
 Muder, Erlene, Nelsonville
 Newcomb, E. H., Kansas City
 Noel, Vivian, Hannibal
 Northcutt, L. C., New London
 Nunn, Pauline, Maywood
 O'Connor, James J., St. Louis
 Ossing, Erwin G., St. Louis
 Painter, Elsie, Monroe City
 Parker, A. W., Breen, Colorado
 Parks, Mildred, Woodland
 Pate, Sharon J., Caruthersville
 Pew, John B., Kansas City
 Phillips, Wayne, Palmyra
 Pitts, Lois, Carrollton
 Planck, Mrs. Olive, Kansas City
 Poague, Haysler A., Clinton
 Potter, Mildred, Palmyra
 Presley, Lawrence, Buffalo
 Public Library, Jackson
 Public Library, Kirkwood
 Public Library, Louisiana
 Public Library, Montgomery City
 Redmond, Mary, Kansas City
 Reily, E. Mont., Kansas City
 Rollins, G. G., Winona
 Rose, J. R., Jefferson City
 Rowan, W. P., Ferguson
 Sams, Elma, Philadelphia, Mo.
 Savage, W. Herman, Jefferson City
 Schlueter, Robert E., St. Louis
 Schmedt, Paul, Palmyra
 Schwitalla, Alphonse M., St. Louis
 Scott, Oreon E., St. Louis
 Sears, C. N., Kansas City
 Seger, Laura, Ewing
 Shackelford, James T., Napton

- Shipherd, H. Robinson, Kansas City
 Shulse, Virginia, Hannibal
 Shoemaker, Mrs. Caroline, Columbia
 Smith, Frederick M., Independence
 Smith, Harry O., Farmington
 Smither, John Milton, Kansas City
 Solter, Mildred, Palmyra
 Spangler, Kathryn E., Clinton
 Stevens, B. F. & Brown, Ltd., London, England
 Stevenson, C. E., Savannah
 Stinson, John T., St. Louis
 Stockard, Mrs. Virginia A. P., Nevada
 St. Teresa College, Kansas City
 Sullivan, Daniel F., Hannibal
 Swisher, Walter S., St. Louis
 Taylor, Frank W., Jr., St. Louis
 Taylor, Julia, Philadelphia, Mo.
 Thompson, Joseph B., Kansas City
 Tisdell, Frederick M., Columbia
 Tobin, John C., St. Louis
 Traber, Herman L., Kansas City
 Travis, Elizabeth, New Madrid
 Tull, Mrs. Susie, Columbia
 Tuttle, George B., Kalaupapa, Territory of Hawaii
 Tyrer, Esther, Hannibal
 Wagner, Velma, Monroe City
 Walker, Clifford L., Richmond, Virginia
 Watkins, Ralph K., Columbia
 Wells, Rolla, St. Louis
 West, Mrs. Lester, Palmyra
 Whiston, Mary, Ely
 Whitworth, Robert P., Ironton
 Willoughby, K. D., Marshall
 Winfree, Fannie F., Salisbury
 Woolfolk, Lucille, Ely
 Wuerpel, Edmund H., St. Louis
 Wyles, William, Santa Barbara, California
 Yarbrough, Lloyd E., Maywood
 Young, Helen, Hannibal
 Zwick, G. L., St. Joseph

DEVELOPING THE SPIRIT OF LOCAL HISTORY IN MISSOURI

The future looks bright in Missouri to those who cherish love and respect for local history, if the recent action of the rural schools of Marion county is an index. This little northeast Missouri province of 436 square miles, already noted for its Mark Twain, Robert E. Coontz, Carroll Beckwith, William H. Hatch, William Muldrow, Marion City, Hannibal and Palmyra, has just stepped forward to advance its claim as the first county in the United States whose rural schools have enrolled 100% in a state historical society. Encouraged by Superintendent E. C. Bohon and teachers, parent-teachers associations and school boards of the fifty-two rural grade and three rural high schools of Marion county, the spirit of history will be developed through affiliation with the State Historical Society of Missouri, study of *The Missouri Historical Review*, reading of the press articles, "This Week in Missouri History," and executing local projects. Every school district in Marion will be combed by her hundreds of

school children for old letters and diaries, reminiscences of the passing generation, business journals and ledgers, newspaper files and scrapbooks, photographs and plats, minutes of organizations and schools. History will live, as it should, in the present, and not lie moribund, as it usually does.

With a select, workable local and state history library in every rural school, with framed county and state historical maps on the walls of every schoolhouse, together with pictures of outstanding citizens, pioneers, historic places, covered bridges, and other structures which are either fast decaying or no longer in existence, the spirit of history will live and develop as an integral part of the lives of these coming citizens of our State. The educational method of this training is sound, its cultural value dovetails with environment, and the permanent worth to citizen, community, and commonwealth is beyond appraisal. Superintendent Bohon and his co-workers may some day look back to this work as their outstanding contribution to education in Missouri.

MARION COUNTY RURAL SCHOOLS ARE ENROLLED 100% AS
MEMBERS IN STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY E. C. BOHON

Two years ago, prompted by the frequent remarks of elderly people about their early school experiences, the county superintendent of schools of Marion county issued a letter to the presidents of the rural parent-teacher associations suggesting that a committee be appointed in each association to compile a history of its local school.

A number of the associations acted promptly on this suggestion. Committees began working, rather hazily at first, but with ever-increasing interest. Forgotten records came to light. The older inhabitants gave willing interviews. Letters to former residents long since removed to other parts brought quick response.

In due time it was announced that a history of its local school would be read as a feature of the program of a certain association. The announcement created wide-spread interest in the community. Young people came to the meeting eager

to hear the history of their school traced back to its beginning. People whose school interest consisted largely of memories came to have those memories revived, and departed with a new school interest aroused. It was a most enjoyable program. The history was published in the county papers and a typed copy was made into a booklet for the school library.

The spirit of history thus aroused undertook other than school subjects, which resulted in contact with the State Historical Society. It was suggested that the schools become members of the Society, and thereby receive *The Missouri Historical Review*.

A committee was appointed to present the matter to the teachers at the plan meeting of last August. The proposition met with a ready response and each teacher assumed the responsibility of securing the membership of her school.

The teachers presented the proposition to their respective parent-teacher associations or school boards with the result that within a short time the rural grade and high schools were enrolled 100% in the State Historical Society.

Plans are under way for having the schools and parent-teacher association groups work up local history projects, including, in addition to the schools, early settlements, churches, cemeteries, colleges, roads, mills, noted persons, historical events and a county historical map.

Much assistance in this work is derived from reading *The Missouri Historical Review*, which treats of similar projects throughout the State.

It is believed that the spirit of history engendered in the working up of these local projects will provide an interesting background for the study of general history.

It seems fitting to note that Mr. George A. Mahan, president of the State Historical Society, is a strong patron of education. He was born and reared in the country and obtained his elementary education in the rural schools. He is a firm believer in the efficiency of the rural schools and rural environment for training the type of boys and girls that prove the worth of our schools.

HOW CONCORDIA AND MCFALL HIGH SCHOOLS TEACH AND PRESERVE LOCAL HISTORY

An excellent example of what can be done by the public school in the teaching and the preservation of local history is offered by the two historical booklets on Henry and Lafayette counties, Missouri, compiled in 1933 and 1934 by junior and senior students in the American history class of Concordia high school, at Concordia, Missouri. The work was done under the direction of Mr. A. Loyd Collins, teacher of the class and head of the department of history. A similar historical booklet on Gentry county was also compiled in 1934 under Mr. Collins' direction by the students of the high school at McFall, Missouri.

These booklets of between twenty-two and fifty-eight typewritten pages, are bound in manila folders and in this form make excellent books of reference on the history of these counties, not only for the students who compiled them, but for future classes as well.

Each booklet has chapters on first events and things in the county; the origin of the names of the larger towns; a list of the county's outstanding citizens; and one hundred interesting facts about the county. Another valuable feature is the historical calendar found in each booklet, a chronological list of important events in the county's history, arranged by year, month and day. Outline maps of the county or of the State are in the booklets on Henry and Lafayette counties, and pictures of local interest cut from books or newspapers have been included in all of the booklets.

The chief sources of information drawn upon by the students in the preparation of these brief sketches were the published histories of the counties, newspaper files, and manuscript records, such as letters and diaries, still in the hands of older citizens of the communities.

COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL TO HAVE A MISSOURI HISTORY LIBRARY

The Franklin Club, honorary history organization of David H. Hickman Senior High School, Columbia, has raised a fund with which it plans to build up the school library.

The Club is selecting Missouri history books and other reference works as well as fiction, and has taken membership in the State Historical Society of Missouri.

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORGANIZED

The Clay County Missouri Historical Society was organized in Liberty on September 3, 1934. Twenty-two charter members were present. Meetings are to be held six times yearly, and annual dues are fifty cents. Officers elected were: Mrs. R. S. Withers, president; Edgar Laffoon, vice-president; Mrs. Earl Sevier, secretary; Earnest Davidson, treasurer; Mrs. Charles McConn, historian; and an executive board as follows: J. P. Cauthorn, Mrs. Tolliver Cave, Mrs. T. J. Wornall, John Matthews, Mrs. F. K. Justus, and Wesley Bates.—From the Excelsior Springs *Daily Standard*, September 5, 1934.

HISTORIC SITE MARKERS ERECTED IN ST. LOUIS

St. Louis now is to become more consciously aware of its interesting past, as the result of a campaign being conducted by the Young Men's Division of the Chamber of Commerce.

This group will add to its previous efforts this week by placing bronze markers on five of the city's landmarks, or their sites. Historic events are suitably commemorated in this way, and the present generation is brought closer to the lives of its forebears. The old court-house is known to all, but the ancient structure's past glories are revived by a notation that it was the scene of the Dred Scott trial in 1847. St. Louis' educational pioneer, Susan Blow, is honored by a marker on the Des Peres School, reminding that here, in 1873, she founded the first successful kindergarten in the country. The old National Hotel, host to Webster and Lincoln, is on the list. Likewise, the Lindell Hotel site, where President Johnson, General Grant, Admiral Farragut and General Hancock were guests on one day in 1866. The Indian council ground, where William Clark negotiated with the red men, is to be marked.

We live in the present, but we are linked inevitably with the past, whose heritage it is well to remember.—From an editorial by Irving Dilliard, in the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, September 11, 1934.

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS OF HANNIBAL DONATED

Eight large, mounted photographs of markers of historical sites in Hannibal erected by Mr. George A. Mahan, president of the State Historical Society of Missouri, two rare photographs of the Mississippi river bridges at Hannibal and Quincy, and four photographs of street scenes in historic Hannibal, Mark Twain buildings, and a map of Hannibal in 1869, have recently been donated to the Society by Mr. Mahan.

OLD MISSOURI NEWSPAPERS DONATED

Two important donations of old Missouri newspapers have been made to the Society recently. This material will be made available to the public as soon as it can be repaired and the volumes bound.

From Mr. Marvin Crawford, editor of the California *Democrat*, were received files of that paper from 1873 to 1879, 1881 to 1886, and 1888 to 1890; also the *Moniteau Monitor* of 1881-1882; the *Greenback Derrick* 1882-1883; the *Herald* of 1889-1890; the *Moniteau Journal* of 1871-1874; and *The Newspaper* of 1884-1890. Some of these files duplicate the present holdings of the Society.

From the Lexington Historical Society were received files of the Lexington *Intelligencer* from 1887 to 1901, inclusive, and miscellaneous issues of 1879, and 1881-1885.

A RARE MISSOURI ITEM

Among the rarer Missouri books is the volume, *Journal of the Senate; Extra Session of the Rebel Legislature Called Together by a Proclamation of C. F. Jackson, 21st of October, 1861*. Five thousand copies of this forty-five page pamphlet were printed, on the authorization of the House of Representatives, in Jefferson City during 1865-66. This item is occasionally offered by book dealers at prices from \$50 to

\$100. The State Historical Society of Missouri is preserving copies of this rare Senate journal for use in research, and these are always available for use by the public. No printed accounts are known to exist concerning the meeting of the House of Representatives which convened at the same time.

A MISSOURI RIVER BOOK

"On page 298 of the July, 1934, issue of the *Review* are listed a number of references to books about the Missouri river. With great regret I note the omission of what seems to me is the most interesting of all the volumes written on this subject for it describes the source as 'From this Hole in the Rocky Mountains, the little rivulet, two feet wide and scarcely two inches in depth . . . reaches the ocean by the longest continuous and uninterrupted river channel known to the world . . . 4,221 miles.'

"The quotations are from pages 112 and 120 of a rare book in the Mercantile Library entitled *The Missouri River and Its Utmost Source*, by Hon. J. V. Brower."—Morrison Pettus, St. Louis.

(Note: The State Historical Society has recently obtained a copy of Brower's book.)

MAJOR ALFRED J. BASYE

BY MRS. ANN STUART DEWEY

An interesting family connected with the early history of Missouri was that of Major Alfred J. Basye. Major Basye was of French Huguenot descent and was born in Virginia on June 2, 1785. He was a first cousin of Chief Justice John Marshall, a second cousin of President William Henry Harrison, and a third cousin of General Zachary Taylor.

He represented Howard county in the second and third General Assemblies when St. Charles was the capital of Missouri. He moved to Jefferson City in 1826 and held the office of land commissioner. He later was appointed postmaster by President Taylor. His first property in the capital city was the four-hundred block on Main street, running

back to High street, and his house, said to be the first brick residence in Jefferson City, was built of bricks made by his slaves near Columbia and hauled by ox team. Records in the Cole county court house tell of many other purchases of land, including the two-hundred block on the north side of High street, the tract known as Richmond Hill, and sixteen inlots purchased from Peter Bass. In 1846, the Basye family moved to the north half of the one-hundred block of Madison street, opposite the Governor's Mansion. Here Mrs. Basye conducted a family hotel for the benefit of state officers and members of the legislature.

Major Basye's wife was his first cousin, Frances de Wilton Robinson, whose brother, Alexander Robinson, was for many years Speaker of the House of Representatives. A large oil portrait of him hung upon the walls of the old Missouri capitol.

Major and Mrs. Basye had twelve children, one of whom died in infancy. The eleven who lived to maturity were: Alfred, Susan, Nancy, Eliza, Louisa, Mary, Frances, Narcissa, Elizabeth, Margaret and John.

Alfred was a doctor and married Mary Walker, daughter of the State treasurer. He died of wounds and exposure in Texas while serving in the Confederate army.

John, a captain in the Confederate army, was captured as a spy in the Union lines, convicted and sentenced to be hanged. Upon the intervention of B. Gratz Brown (later governor of Missouri), a warm, personal friend of the family, his sentence was commuted to imprisonment in the military prison in Alton until the close of the war.

Susan married Charles Wray Stuart a widower, son of Samuel Wray Stuart of Virginia whose family was related to the Washingtons and the Lees.

Nancy married Cyrus Stark, who published the first newspaper in Springfield, Missouri.

Eliza married Ben Holliday, who published at Old Franklin the first newspaper in Howard county.

Louisa married George W. Miller, for many years circuit judge of the Jefferson City district.

Mary married Dr. Moody Mansur, who must have been quite a catch, since he had graduated in medicine from Harvard University, had seen service as an army surgeon in the Florida war, and had spent some time in Washington and Philadelphia.

Frances married Ambrose D. Reynolds, only son of Governor Thomas Reynolds.

Narcissa married Andrew King, who represented St. Charles county in the legislature and later served his district as congressman.

Margaret married Captain Sinclair Miller, a representative in the legislature from Buchanan county.

Elizabeth never married. She was the last surviving member of this interesting family. She had the distinction of having known personally every governor of Missouri from McNair to Dockery.

(This article is based upon data obtained from Mrs. Leona Timmons of Carrollton, Missouri, and from the records of Cole county. Mrs. Timmons is a granddaughter of Major Basye, being the daughter of Frances Basye and Ambrose D. Reynolds. Mrs. Dewey, the author, is a great-granddaughter of Major Basye, being the daughter of Rose Reynolds and John Hart Stuart, son of Charles Wray Stuart.)

ANNIVERSARIES

The 101st anniversary of the establishment of Sarcoux was celebrated by a historical pageant and by the dedication of a bridge over Center Creek on Route 38.—From the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, October 30, 1934.

Members of the Muench and Voellenius families met at Augusta, Missouri, October 7, 1934, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of their original settlement in Missouri. Frederick Muench and Paul Voellenius emigrated from Germany in 1834, each being in charge of about seventy-five families. A historical sketch of the colonization movement was given by Mr. Julius Muench, and a dinner was served in the old Muench wine cellar.—From the Marthasville *Record*, October 12, 1934.

The 100th anniversary of the Missouri Baptist General Association will be observed October 23, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, October 21, 1934.

The 100th anniversary of the consecration of the Old Cathedral in St. Louis is to be celebrated October 28, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, October 21, 1934.

The 100th anniversary of the Evangelical Church of the Holy Ghost, said to be the oldest German Protestant congregation in St. Louis, will be celebrated during October 14 to 28, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* of October 13, 1934, and St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, October 14, 1934.

The 100th anniversary of the Evangelical Friedens Church, near St. Charles, is to be celebrated August 19, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, August 16, 1934.

The 100th anniversary of the organization of the Missouri Baptist General Association will be observed August 29, 1934, at Old Providence Church, near New Bloomfield.—From the Columbia *Missourian*, August 27, 1934.

The 100th anniversary of the Bethel Baptist Association was celebrated during its meeting at the 112-year-old Bethel Baptist Church, near Palmyra.—From the Palmyra *Spectator*, August 29, 1934.

The 100th anniversary of the organization of the Little Piney Association of the Primitive Baptist Church was celebrated August 25, 26, and 27, 1934, at Lake Spring, Dent county.—From the Salem *Post*, August 30, 1934.

The 90th anniversary of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, at New Melle, will be celebrated September 30, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, September 26, 1934.

The 90th anniversary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, at Olive street and Link road, St. Louis county, was observed September 16, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, September 16, 1934.

The 75th anniversary of the Prairie Flower school district, in Gentry county, was celebrated October 12, 1934. A historical sketch of the district by Robert Birbeck and an account of the celebration appeared in the King City *Chronicle* of October 19, 1934.

The 75th anniversary of St. Paul's Evangelical church at Old Monroe will be celebrated September 16, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, September 14, 1934.

The 75th anniversary of the Home of the Guardian Angel, founded by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, occurs September 9, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, September 6, 1934.

The sixtieth anniversary of St. Bernard's Catholic church, Hawk avenue and Gratiot street, occurs September 16, 1934.—From the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, September 14, 1934.

The forty-fourth anniversary of the Pacific *Meramec Valley Transcript* was observed by the publication of a special edition on July 27, 1934.

The thirtieth anniversary of the Cape Girardeau *South-east Missourian* was observed by the publication of a special edition on October 2, 1934, and by a public celebration during October 3, 4, and 5, 1934.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of Frank Louis Soldan High School is commemorated by *The Scrip*, student annual issued in June, 1934.

MONUMENTS AND MEMORIALS

Plans are being considered to erect a monument in memory of Mark Twain at Hannibal, to be dedicated November 30, 1935, the 100th anniversary of his birth. Walter Russell, New York sculptor, is assisting in making the plans.—From the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, September 11, 1934.

Bronze markers will be placed on the five following historic buildings and sites by the Young Men's Division of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce: the Old Courthouse, Des Peres School, Old National Hotel, Indian Council Grounds, and Lindell Hotel site.—From the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, September 2, 1934.

The Battle of Lexington is commemorated by the special edition of the Lexington *Daily Intelligencer* of September 17, 1934. An account of the battle, a description of memorials recently erected, a chronology of local events, and a record of the work of the Lexington Public Library and Historical Association appear in this special number.

A red granite boulder, erected to mark the site of the first Protestant religious service in Marion county, was dedicated September 30, 1934, at a point three miles south of Palmyra, near Highway 61. The original service in 1820 was held by Reverend John Riddle, a Baptist minister. Addresses were made at the dedicatory services by George A. Mahan and Floyd C. Shoemaker, president and secretary, respectively, of the State Historical Society of Missouri.—From the Palmyra *Spectator* and the Palmyra *Marion County Standard*, October 3, 1934.

The grave of Braxton C. Pollard, a Revolutionary soldier, is at Florida, Missouri. It was appropriately marked by the D. A. R. on October 12, 1934.—From the Paris *Monroe County Appeal*, October 18, 1934.

A bronze tablet commemorating the work and sacrifice of the women from Missouri who served as nurses in the World War will be dedicated September 2, 1934, at the annual state convention of the Eight and Forty Society of the American Legion Auxiliary.—From the *Kansas City Star*, August 30, 1934.

A monument to the women of the old South was unveiled by the Kansas City Chapter No. 149 of the U. D. C., on September 9, 1934.—From the *Kansas City Star*, September 10, 1934.

A memorial bust of Dr. William F. Kuhn will be unveiled November 10, 1934, in the mausoleum at Mt. Moriah cemetery, Kansas City, by Masonic organizations.—From the *Kansas City Star*, November 9, 1934.

The site of a battle between the Younger brothers and U. S. detectives, near Monegaw Springs, was recently marked by CWA workers.—From an article by Augusta H. Graham in the *Jefferson City Missouri Magazine*, August, 1934.

NOTES

In the rearrangement of Statuary Hall, in the National Capitol, the statue of Thomas Hart Benton will remain as that of the outstanding Missouri statesman. The statue of Francis P. Blair, which also represented this State, will be removed.—From the *Kansas City Star*, October 17, 1934.

Plans are being made for the celebration of the centennial of Polk county beginning March 13, 1935, and extending through the week in which the Polk county fair is held in the fall.—From the *Bolivar Free Press*, November 22, 1934, and *Bolivar Herald*, November 22, 1934.

Former Missourians now living in the San Juan basin in Colorado held their annual picnic at Fort Lewis College in September, 1934. Speeches were made by Mr. Harry McDevitt, Attorney-General Paul Prosser, and Judge John C.

Young. Officers for the ensuing year are: president, Albert Parker, of Breen; and secretary-treasurer, Dr. R. H. Howard, of Farmington, New Mexico.—Contributed by Mr. W. S. Pickerill, of Durango, Colorado.

Mr. George Riley Hall, proprietor of the Henryetta (Oklahoma) *Daily Free-Lance*, widely known as the poet laureate of the Oklahoma Press Association, was born in Springfield, Missouri, and was reared in Lawrence, Jasper and Newton counties. On April 22, 1934, the *Daily Oklahoman*, of Oklahoma City, published a full page of his poems entitled "Poems of the Pioneers."

Reverend Charles C. Bentley, who is said to have been the original of Harold Bell Wright's character of the minister in *The Calling of Dan Matthews*, died in Long Beach, California, recently.—From the *Kansas City Star*, August 13, 1934.

Mrs. Mabel Hillyer Eastman, Missouri poetess who was born in Chillicothe, died in Miami, Florida, October 10, 1934.—From the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, October 12, 1934.

Unknown vandals have wrecked monuments and injured trees in the old cemetery at Sixty-third street near Woodland avenue, Kansas City, in which Daniel Morgan Boone, his relatives and other pioneers are buried.—From the *Kansas City Star*, October 8, 1934.

The Stark orchards at Louisiana recently obtained the first patent ever granted for a fruit tree. The tree is a peach and it is patented under the title "Hal-Berta Giant."—From the *Kansas City Journal-Post*, November 11, 1934.

There is no longer a Missouri avenue in Washington, D. C.—From the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, October 1, 1934.

Statues and images of animals, supposedly made by prehistoric tribes, have been found in southeast Missouri and northeast Arkansas by Dentler Rowland. Many are adorned with gold and copper.—From the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, October 19, 1934.

Over 135 descendants of Hannah Cole, Cooper county pioneer, held a reunion July 22, 1934, near the site of her cabin. A family club was organized, with Mr. Tom Groves, of Tipton, as president, and Mrs. Ira Leiter, of Sedalia, as secretary.—From the *Bunceton Eagle*, July 27, 1934.

The annual St. Louis Award of \$1,000 for civic accomplishment was presented to Louis Nolte, city comptroller, for his refusal to authorize the issuance of new city bonds for public improvements until revenue to meet the interest and sinking fund requirements could be guaranteed.—From the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, November 10, 1934.

The original muster roll of Company E, 76th Regiment of Enrolled Militia of Missouri, organized at Dadeville (then Melville) July 29, 1862, has recently been found and is reprinted in the *Greenfield Vedette* of September 20, 1934.

Delegates from eighteen counties recently met in Rolla and formed the Missouri Ozark Development Association to work in cooperation with various state and federal governmental agencies now functioning in the area.—From the *Kansas City Times*, October 18, 1934.

A historical sketch of Heckman's Mill, erected after 1851 on Horseshoe Bend of the Gasconade river, in Osage county, appears in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* of September 29, 1934.

"Government by Minorities a Menace" and "Lightening the People's Tax Burdens," by O. B. Whitaker of Weaubleau, Missouri, appear in the *Columbia Missouri Farmer* of August 15, and September 15, 1934. "A Tremendous Achievement

for Missouri Taxpayers," by David L. Bales of Eminence, Missouri, also appears in the *Missouri Farmer* of September 15, 1934.

A historical sketch of the Kansas City, Clinton and Springfield Railroad, known as the "leaky roof line," appears in the *Kansas City Star* of July 29, 1934. The author is A. B. MacDonald.

A historical sketch of St. Peter's Parish, in Jefferson City, by Adolph B. Suess, appears in the *Vienna, Home Adviser* of September 27, 1934.

A brief historical sketch of Wayside Inn, built in 1835 five miles northwest of LaGrange, appears in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* of August 11, 1934.

Data on the life of Daniel Morgan Boone, who is buried in a Kansas City cemetery, is given in the *Kansas City Star* of October 11, 1934, by Robert M. Snyder, Jr. The article is a plea for greater public recognition of Boone as a Jackson county pioneer. It is pointed out also that Daniel Boone himself had traveled in and about Jackson county.

Reminiscences of early Missouri and of participation in the Civil War are given by Mr. Jesse Cox, of Douglas county, in the *Ava Douglas County Herald* of November 22, 1934.

A preliminary report of the unofficial State Planning Board has been made in which the history of the state is reviewed, and its physical characteristics, land use, population, conservation, industry, transportation, parks, and other subjects are discussed.—From the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, October 26, 1934.

The Greenfield *Vedette* has almost completed a list of all veterans of the American wars who are buried in the cemeteries of Dade county.—From the *Jefferson City, Missouri Magazine*, August, 1934.

A list of the dead in Highland Cemetery whose birth dates were 1812 or earlier, compiled by the D. A. R., appears in the Hamilton *Advocate-Hamiltonian*, of June 21, 1934.

An illustrated historical article on the St. Charles road, in St. Louis county, appears in the Clayton *Watchman-Advocate* of September 7, 1934.

Scenes and impressions of the site of Kansas City by early travelers and explorers are described in the Kansas City *Times*, of August 20, 1934.

Secretary of State Dwight H. Brown has delegated certain of his employees to go through the session acts of the general assemblies from 1820 to 1865 and ascertain the number of early day corporations, together with their names, classifications, locations, etc.—From the *Missouri State News Service*, November 5, 1934.

History of vanished academies which once flourished throughout the Ozarks will be compiled by Springfield Teachers College students under the MERA this winter.—From the Kansas City *Times*, October 9, 1934.

A colored pictorial map of Jackson county, which shows many historical scenes and marks the sites of pioneer events, is being compiled by Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grinter of Independence, Missouri.—From the Kansas City *Star*, October 5, 1934.

HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS

The story of a successful communistic experiment in which Missouri played a part is told in Robert J. Hendricks' *Bethel and Aurora, An Experiment in Communism as Practical Christianity*. The book was published by The Press of the Pioneers at New York in 1933.

Of particular interest to Missouri is the first part of the book in which is related the history of the colony started in

1844 at Bethel in Shelby county by Dr. William Keil, a native of Prussia. By the early 1850's, about a thousand persons were in the Bethel colony, and the society controlled 4000 acres in Shelby county and 1300 more at Nineveh in Adair county. The latter part of Mr. Hendricks' book concerns the later history of the society at Aurora in Oregon.

While the book abounds in considerable local color, it is too general in content to be of outstanding value to the historian, and it lacks many available details that would have made the section on the Bethel colony of greater worth. Although the whole tone of the work is uncritical and generally lacking in objectivity, the publication will serve as a general work on a notable and successful experiment in community life.

A new volume, *Colonel A. W. Gilbert; Citizen-Soldier of Cincinnati*, consists of a Civil war diary, edited by William E. Smith and Ophia D. Smith and published by the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio. It is of special interest to Missourians because it describes the movements of the 39th Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry in this State. The regiment was active in Missouri from August 20, 1861, until April 5, 1862, and during this period went from St. Louis to Mexico, Utica, Richmond, Liberty, Kansas City, Westport, Springfield, Pleasant Hill, Osceola, Humansville, Bolivar, Greenfield, Springfield, Warsaw, Sedalia, Syracuse, Boonville, New Franklin, Columbia, Fulton, Warrenton, St. Charles, St. Louis, and New Madrid. Colonel Gilbert's diary is supplemented by letters and private papers as well as by official documents.

"James Milton Turner: A Little Known Benefactor of His People," by Irving Dilliard, appears in *The Journal of Negro History*, for October, 1934. Mr. Dilliard, a member of the editorial staff of the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, carefully presents Turner's three documented claims to fame: his commencement and furtherance of Negro education in Missouri immediately after the Civil war, his service as Minister Resident and Consul General in Liberia under President

Grant, and his successful representation of the claims of freedmen of the Cherokee Nation. Turner was born a slave in Missouri. He became one of the outstanding men of his race in America and, in the opinion of the author, deserves to rank with Booker T. Washington and Frederick Douglass. Mr. Dilliard has performed a scholarly piece of work which is a real contribution to Missouri history. The *Journal of Negro History* awarded its annual \$100 prize for 1934 to Mr. Dilliard.

A twenty-four page brochure has been published as a souvenir of the celebration commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the consecration of the Old Cathedral of St. Louis. Photographs of the Cathedral as it looks today and Bishop Rosati's description of it in 1834 make up this interesting souvenir.

The chief features identified with the remarkable educational career, extending over a period of thirty-two years, of the University Medical College, of Kansas City, Missouri, have been recorded by Dr. John Punton in a small pamphlet published for presentation to members of the alumni in October, 1934.

"The Early Cartography of the Missouri Valley," by Raphael N. Hamilton, in the *American Historical Review* of July, 1934, is a scholarly article, with valuable illustrations, on the five important early phases of development as recorded in maps of this region.

The *Arkansas Historical Review*, published by the Arkansas Historical Society and the State History Commission, at Little Rock, was begun in February, 1934.

"Senator Benton Lays His Plans; Some Newly-Discovered Material on the Fremont Court-Martial," by Francis M. Wheat, appears in the *California Historical Society Quarterly* of June, 1934.

Incidents in the life of William Craig are recounted in Dr. LeRoy R. Hafen's article on "Mountain Men," in the September, 1934 issue of the *Colorado Magazine*.

The Daniel Boone Bicentennial Edition of the *Kentucky Progress Magazine*, of Louisville, Kentucky, appeared during the summer of 1934. It is well illustrated and is devoted to scenes and incidents in the life of the famous pioneer.

"The Fame of Daniel Boone," by Dr. Louise Phelps Kellogg, appears in the *Register* of the Kentucky State Historical Society of July, 1934.

PERSONALS

JOHN BALDWIN: Born near Norfolk, Ohio, May 15, 1843; died near Butler, Mo., Sept. 22, 1934. In 1868 he moved to Henry county, Mo., where he engaged in the cattle business. In the early 1880's he acquired extensive holdings of land in Missouri. In 1910 and 1914 he was elected State senator.

MALCOLM ANDREWS BLISS: Born at Warsaw, Ill., July 2, 1863; died near St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 3, 1934. He studied dentistry in Northwestern University, then practiced in Farmington. Next he studied medicine and practiced in Bonne Terre two years; thereafter he practiced in St. Louis for forty-two years. During the World War he served in the medical corps with the rank of colonel.

ROBERT N. BODE: Born in St. Charles, Mo.; died in New York City, Sept. 7, 1934. He founded the *St. Charles Daily Monitor* in 1890 and operated it until 1900. He went to New York in 1918, and at the time of his death was vice-president of the George W. Luft Manufacturing Company.

OSCAR GILLILAND BOISSEAU: Born in Johnson county, Mo., April 7, 1870; died in Holden, Mo., Aug. 16, 1934. After attending the University of Missouri he spent seven years in other states, engaged in newspaper work, and in

1899 returned to Johnson county, where he engaged in the real estate and loan business. He was active in politics and was an advocate of good roads.

HENRY FRANKLIN CHILDERS: Born in Washington county, Mo., Sept. 5, 1859, died in Columbia, Mo., Aug. 16, 1934. He was educated in Westminster College, and then founded the *Elsberry Advance*. In 1878 he began work on the *Troy Free Press*, and two years later bought the paper which he continued to publish until his death. During 1899, he edited the *Independence Sentinel*. In 1908 he was secretary of the Democratic State Committee, and in 1909 was president of the Missouri Press Association. With his son he bought the *Columbia Herald* in 1910, and during 1913-14 lived in Columbia, and thereafter resided in Troy.

EGBERT RAILEY COCKRELL: Born in Platte county, Mo., April 2, 1873; died in Fayetteville, Ark., Sept. 13, 1934. He was educated in Drake University and the Iowa College of Law, then began the practice of law in Montana in 1897. Subsequently he taught at Texas Christian University, and practiced in Texas. He studied in Columbia University and Oxford University, England, then in 1921 was elected mayor of Fort Worth. He served two terms as mayor and in 1924 became president of William Woods College, at Fulton, Missouri.

EDMOND PENDLETON CROWE: Born at Hartford, Ky., July 21, 1868; died in Dexter, Mo., Sept. 17, 1934. At the age of eighteen he began work on an Eddyville, Ky., newspaper, later going to the Louisville *Courier-Journal*. Subsequently he became a lyceum and anti-saloon lecturer. For five years he was a Methodist minister in Louisville. In 1910 he moved to Sikeston, then to Dexter where he started the *Statesman*, a paper he owned and edited until his death.

PERL D. DECKER: Born in Athens county, Ohio, Sept. 10, 1875; died in Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 22, 1934. He moved with his parents to Kansas in 1879, and was educated in Park College, Parkville, Mo., and the University of Kansas. He thereafter practiced law, mainly in Joplin, Missouri. From 1913 to 1919 he served in Congress.

CHARLES L. DELBRIDGE: Born in Union Springs, Ala.; died in St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 9, 1934, at the age of 70. He was widely known for his skill in mental arithmetic and rapid calculation, and his publishing company printed more than 100 interest books and calculation tables. He founded the town of Delbridge, Mo., in 1927.

ARCH B. DIGGINS: Died in Springfield, Mo., Sept. 20, 1934, at the age of 68. When he was about fourteen years of age he moved with his parents to Springfield. During the Spanish-American war he commanded Company K, Missouri National Guard, a unit which became the 102nd Infantry. He engaged in the insurance business for many years.

JOSEPH WILLIAM GRAVELY: Born in Stockton, Mo., Jan. 19, 1866; died in Bolivar, Mo., Oct. 24, 1934. Leaving school at the age of thirteen he first worked on the Bolivar *Free Press*, and then on Springfield dailies. From 1891 until his death he was editor and publisher of the Bolivar *Free Press*.

ROBERT BURETTE OLIVER: Born in Cape Girardeau county, Mo., Jan. 23, 1850; died in Cape Girardeau, Mo., Oct. 16, 1934. He was graduated from the University of Missouri in 1877, and began the practice of law in Jackson, being elected prosecuting attorney in 1878, a position he held for two terms. He was a member of the State senate during 1883-87, and of the house of representatives in 1903. In 1889 he was appointed to the board of curators of the University, a post which he held thirteen years.

CORNELIUS ROACH: Born in Jerseyville, Ill., Aug. 9, 1863; died in Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 3, 1934. He taught school, then worked as reporter on the *Jersey County Democrat*. In 1889 he moved to Carthage, Mo., and purchased the *Jasper County Democrat*. In 1893 he was elected secretary of the State senate. In 1908 he was elected secretary of state, and reelected in 1912. He helped organize the State tax commission, and was its chairman two years. He moved to Kansas City in 1918 and engaged in the banking business.

WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON: Born in Randolph county, Mo., April 3, 1866; died in Carthage, Mo., Oct. 22, 1934. He was educated in Ozark College, Greenfield, Mo., and taught school three years in Dade county. In 1892 he entered the practice of law in Delta county, Colo. He moved to Webb City in 1898, and in 1912 was elected to the Springfield Court of Appeals. Thereafter he practiced law in Joplin.

AUGUSTUS THOMAS: Born in St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 8, 1857; died in New York City, Aug. 12, 1934. As a youth he served as page in the Missouri General Assembly and in Congress. In 1887 he was a reporter on the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, then joined the staff of the Kansas City *Mirror* as editorial writer and dramatic critic. He next worked for the Kansas City *Times*. He wrote over one hundred plays and was also recognized as a sculptor of ability. He received an honorary degree from the University of Missouri.

GEORGE P. VENABLE: Born in Lebanon, Ohio, March 18, 1838; died in Lexington, Mo., July 16, 1934. He moved to Westport, Mo., then to Lexington in 1853. During the Civil war he served in the Confederate army. By profession he was a jeweler and watch maker. For fifty years he was a member of the Lexington board of education, and for forty-eight years was treasurer of the board.

WILLIAM E. WHITECOTTON: Born in Ralls county, Mo. Dec. 26, 1866; died in Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 9, 1934. He was educated in the University of Missouri, and practiced law thereafter in Paris, Mo., where he continued to reside. He was elected to the General Assemblies of Missouri from the 50th to 57th, inclusive, and just before his death had been nominated by the primary election for his eighth term.

MISSOURI HISTORY NOT FOUND IN TEXTBOOKS

"SHELBY'S MULE," A CIVIL WAR SONG

Extracts from the journal of a Missouri Confederate soldier, printed in the *Liberty, Clay County Democrat*, June 4, 1903.

. A feature of this entertainment (a series of tableaux given by the young ladies of Camden, Ark., for the benefit of Confederate war widows, in the winter of 1864) was an original song by Joe Letty, a St. Louis boy, a member of the "Kelly Infantry" and who had been a famous song and dance man before he volunteered in defense of the South. He had a fine voice and threw his whole soul into the song that was to make him famous and that later was sung by Shelby's troopers from the Missouri to the Rio Grande.

I recall the enthusiasm of the audience as the song progressed and a vote at its conclusion would have declared Letty, next to "Old Pap," the most popular man in the army. Letty's song follows:

SHELBY'S MULE

The Union folks up in the north
Are getting much afraid
That something's coming from the South,
They think it is a raid.
Now I will tell you what it is,
If you will just keep cool;
Its got long ears and a long sleek tail,
And is called Joe Shelby's mule.

CHORUS

Shout, boys, make a noise,
The yankees are afraid
That something's up, and hell's to pay
When Shelby's on a raid.

Oh! once I went to see old Abe
And found him in a rage,
Because this mule had started north,
And had just crossed Osage.
Indeed his anger knew no bounds,
Said I, "Sir, pray keep cool;"
"I can't," said he, "I've lost so much
By Shelby's long-eared mule."

Old "Rosey" got a long dispatch,
Which came from way down east,
To take some thirty thousand men
And try to catch the beast.
To obey orders he was bound,
But he called old Abe a fool,
For he had no halter strong enough
To hold Joe Shelby's mule.

Some say our state did not secede,
But let me tell you now,
That if she did, or if she didn't,
We'll have her anyhow.
Let us alone, we'll do the same,
That is the Southern rule;
If that wont do we'll pack the state
Down South on Shelby's mule.

Letty sang the words to a lively air, original or adopted, I am not certain which, but it was a great hit and no song of the South, up to that time, so pleased the Missourians. It took like "Dixie" and "Bonnie Blue Flag," and for a time displaced them all

VICE-PRESIDENT MARSHALL LIVED IN MISSOURI

From the Lancaster *Excelsior*, July 19, 1912.

Two years ago Sidney J. Roy, secretary of the Hannibal Commercial Club, while in Indianapolis, called on Gov. Thomas R. Marshall and in the conversation the governor stated that when a child his father moved to LaGrange, Mo., where the family lived for three or four years.

Since the governor's nomination for vice-president on the Democratic ticket Mr. Roy wrote Gov. Marshall asking about the details of his residence in Missouri and received the following:

"Permit me to thank you for letter of congratulations. With reference to the information which you desire it is true that when I was a boy 4 years old, in 1858 or early in 1859 my father, Dr. Daniel M. Marshall, moved to LaGrange, Mo., where he had an uncle and where also he had a cousin, Silas N. Marshall.

"We lived at LaGrange until a few days before the election of Abraham Lincoln, when, on account of a controversy between my father, who was a Douglas Democrat, and Duff [James S.] Green, a Breckenridge Democrat, it was deemed advisable for us to escape from Missouri between two suns.

"One of my earliest recollections is of seeing the sun go down on the Mississippi, as we left LaGrange and went to Quincy, Ill. I also remember our arrival in Indiana on the day Lincoln was elected."

"THE REST OF US DO BETTER"

An editorial written by Irving Dilliard in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, November 5, 1934.

We who live in the Mississippi Valley have long been told by our friends in the East that the latter region not only had a corner on the ability of the country but a virtual monopoly on its production. Did not the late Henry Cabot Lodge, some 40 years ago, compile statistics on the birthplaces of persons included in Appleton's *Cyclopaedia of American Biography* to show that Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Virginia, in the order named, had produced the greatest number of distinguished Americans? Facts were facts, we have been told ever since, and there was nothing to do except lament our sad state.

Opening up the question after all these years with an article in the *Atlantic Monthly*, Dr. Dumas Malone, editor of the *Dictionary of American Biography* and formerly a member of the history faculty at Yale, finds that however barren the rest of the country may have been when Lodge conducted his study, it is now giving the East real competition. Dr. Malone discovers the Middle West moving forward on the basis of persons included in the first 13 volumes of the *Dictionary of American Biography* (through Oglesby), who were born in the decade 1860-69, the latest decade subject to dependable generalization. In this analysis Massachusetts is no longer first but fourth. New York and Pennsylvania are still leaders, first and second, respectively. But there are three newcomers: Ohio, which is third, and Missouri and Illinois, tied for fifth.

There can be no doubt that the "rest of the country" will show up better in the production of persons of distinction as statistics for later decades become available. When Lodge compiled his summary, the continent was still not rounded out. Wisconsin, for example, apparently had produced no distinguished sons. Now, to mention only four natives of that State, the elder La Follette and Thomas J. Walsh, statesmen, Thorstein Veblen, economist, and Frederick Jackson Turner, historian, must have places on any list of significant Americans.

If there was a time when the concentration of population along the Atlantic seaboard gave that section the distinction of producing all those who distinguished themselves, it is gone, and gone, we dare say, forever. Any inferiority complexes hanging over from Lodge's conception of what he called "the distribution of ability" ought to be submerged or whatever it is you do with outmoded complexes.

NINEVEH, A COMMUNISTIC COLONY

From the *Kirksville Daily Express*, May 28, 1934.

Born in the ambitious pioneering of a nonconformist religious zealot who was a native of Prussia, one of the few communistic colonies attempted in America was organized in Adair county 85 years ago.

Although it survived only 28 years, the colony known as Nineveh contributed one of the most unique chapters in Adair county history and in the 57 years since dissolution its physical traces have not been entirely removed.

Some of the occupants of Nineveh still live in the county and one outstanding landmark, a two-story brown house occupied by the Polson family, still stands at the successor town, Connellsville.

Miss Dorothea Hickman, student in the Kirksville High School, recently conducted an extensive research into the history of Connellsville and Nineveh

Dr. William Kiel, born in Prussia in 1811, came to America in 1835 and became a milliner in New York. But he soon migrated westward and became a German Methodist minister. A man of unusual brilliancy, full of whims and fancies, he developed great followings but because of religious beliefs was asked to leave his church. He joined another church but refused to obey dictates of his superiors and again found himself on the outside.

He abandoned all organized denominations and began forming his own following into a religious unit In 1844 a communistic colony was established at Bethel, Shelby county, Mo. It expanded rapidly and five years later a 160-acre tract on the Chariton river in northern Adair county was purchased for a branch colony. Some 25 persons came from Bethel and began the task of developing Nineveh.

The original plat of the town, now in the possession of Marion Miller, shows the town was laid out with a center square, which had eight streets leading to it. Miller's Hall now stands on the southeast corner of that square. In the height of its prosperity Nineveh's northern boundary extended to within one block of the present Connellsville postoffice. Its western boundary was within a few rods of the Connellsville school house. The road now running past the Collins store was the southernmost street.

Land belonging to the colony grew to more than 2,000 acres. The population lived completely isolated from national life. They obeyed their own laws, flew their own flag and supported their own puny state.

Kiel ruled with an iron hand. He resided at Nineveh only a few weeks of each year but had a fine three-story home for use during those weeks. After a few years he demanded another house and ordered it to be built in the exact spot where Highway C now makes a deep fill across the ravine just south of the P. J. Royce and James Hatfield residences. The house, another three-story mansion, was built at great cost to the colonists.

The executives of the town were the elders and overseers. The head elder was also general manager. Each industry had its superintendent and each superintendent had several bosses under him.

Each man entering the colony was allowed to follow the trade of his choice. Each was compelled, under his oath of allegiance, to turn all property into the common treasury. A strictly accurate record was kept of these transactions. Each colonist received exactly the same amount

and quality of food and clothing. Rations were dispensed once a week. Quotas of clothing were distributed three times yearly.

The chief religious doctrines practiced were obedience to Kiel, industry and morality. Baptism was not held necessary. Sermons began at 10 o'clock Sunday morning and closed at noon. A huge feast, which represented the holy communion, was then held at the home of the morning speaker. The feast was followed by a dance which lasted until dusk. German was taught in the school.

A program of labor was mapped in the colony to give each resident the task for which he was best fitted. The boys were herdsmen, who cared for the fine blooded horses and mules and the Durham cattle, brought from Ohio. The men past middle age were the handy men. They harnessed the horses and oxen and fed them, as well as keeping machinery in repair. Men in their prime lived from the apprentice age to marriage in one of the community houses, working and learning to work.

Milling, tanning and weaving were the three main industries. One of the main factors in choosing the Nineveh location, Miss Hickman found, was the fine mill already there. This three story structure, said to be the largest west of the Mississippi, was changed from water to steam power and became the largest single source of income in the colony. The colony operated a ferry across the river, just below the mill. Nineveh leathers were widely known. A three-story shoe factory stood just east of the present Collins store. Leather gloves were sold as far west as the coast.

The coal fields abounding in that vicinity were tapped only for the colony's own needs. Each fall Nineveh sent hugh wagonloads of manufactured articles out in the country to trade for raw materials. The treasury gained by leaps and bounds.

But discontent began to spread through the colony population. Kiel grew more despotic Kiel started a colony in Oregon . . . Slowly men began to withdraw and when Kiel died in 1877 the Missouri colonies dissolved. Land and other resources were divided. The town fell into decay

POST OFFICE AT SPRINGFIELD IN 1833

From the *Springfield Express*, February 17, 1882.

Springfield has the honor of the first post office that was established in southwest Missouri, the same being done in the year 1833, at which time the mail was brought on horseback, once in each month, from Harrison's on the Little Piney river. The title of P. M. was conferred upon Mr. Junius T. Campbell, and the office was kept in a hewed log house one story high, the logs of which now constitute the walls of a room on the northwest corner of Jefferson and East Walnut streets, which belongs to Dr. L. T. Watson. They are of oak timber and still in a good state of preservation, which speaks volumes for the salubrity of the atmosphere in these favored regions of the Ozark mountains.

The building in which the office was kept stood a little more than one hundred yards about north of its present location until the year 1842, when Gen. C. B. Holland purchased it for a dwelling house and removed it to where it now stands. In those days sawed lumber was almost out of the question, and even the floors were mostly made of puncheons.

Old Time has worked wonderful changes in the Queen City since that early period, but none greater than in her mail facilities which now daily require the services of 1 P. M., 3 clerks, 900 lock boxes, 316 call boxes, 8 railway route agents, 6 hacks and drivers, and 10 carriers on horseback. The offices supplied in the distribution of mail, as per Missouri scheme, number 81.

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